





# £1,000m set aside for possible Trident bills

By Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent

As much as £1,000m of the £7,500m Britain is to pay for the Trident-2 missile system will be for a contingency fund, Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, disclosed yesterday.

He thought the deal concluded with the United States a better bargain than that struck over Trident-1 in 1980, if only because of the limited contribution that Britain was now making towards American development costs.

Nor should the cuts in the naval programme after last year's defence review, such as the reductions at the royal dockyards and the end of mid-life modernization of frigates be blamed on the Trident decision.

The defence review had been necessary to bring financial commitments into line with resources, he told the Commons defence committee.

He also dismissed suggestion that it would have been better simply to have added Tomahawk cruise missiles to the Royal Navy's hunter-killer submarines. All scientific and military judgments had indicated that they would have been more subject to attrition.

Such a decision would have been disastrous, he said, because of the effect it would have upon the wartime role now filled by such boats, of hunting down enemy submarines in the Atlantic. Moreover they would be vulnerable, firing cruise missiles from their four torpedo tubes and then taking time to reload before releasing another batch.

Meanwhile, the navy was planning to have 18 of the hunter-killer boats in service eventually, 17 by the end of this decade. There would probably be a break in the building programme in the 1990s while Vickers turned to the construction of four big new submarines to carry Trident. But it was still possible that Vickers might insert a hunter-killer into its schedule instead of finishing the 14,580-ton Trident boats consecutively.

Mr Nott made clear that the Government had decided against building a fifth Trident submarine.

A four-boat force armed with Trident-2 would give Britain enough deterrent capability, with three of the submarines in the "operational cycle" at any one time, while the fourth was on refit.

# Public inquiry to investigate Penlee disaster

From Craig Seton, Penzance

The Government has ordered a public inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of the Penlee lifeboat crew and the eight people on board the stricken coaster the were trying to rescue.

The inquiry, announced yesterday by Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, in advance of today's inquiry at Penzance into the 16 deaths, is likely to have wide powers and the ability to recommend changes in maritime law.

Mr Biffen, in a Commons written answer, said he had ordered the inquiry after a preliminary report by two departmental inspectors. He could not determine the scope of the formal investigation until discussions were completed with the Government of the Irish Republic on the loss of the coaster, Union Star.

The coaster was flying the republic's flag when its engines broke down eight miles off the Wolf Rock near Land's End in mountainous seas in December. It had a crew of five and three passengers, the captain's wife and her teenage daughter.

It has always been possible that the Government would order a public inquiry because of evident concern among the public and other lifeboatmen about the tragedy. Public sympathy of more than £3m for the families of the dead lifeboatmen, who all lived in the village of Mousehole.

The inquiry, which will be conducted by a QC from the Admiralty Division, appointed by the Lord Chancellor, will almost certainly examine the crucial two-hour lapse between the coaster's radio signal that it had broken down and the launch of the lifeboat. Concern was also expressed about the negotiations the coaster captain conducted with a tug about salvage terms, which many people believed caused a serious delay.

Mr John Prescott, Labour MP for Kingston upon Hull, East, a former official of the National Union of Seamen, made clear at the time that he wanted coastguards to be able to direct ships' masters to accept help when they were in trouble, to prevent haggling over salvage terms.

The lifeboat Solomon Browne took on board four people from the coaster before her ill-fated attempt to rescue the others. By that time the Union Star was almost on the rocks, and eventually she capsized. The lifeboat was smashed to pieces, but precisely in what circumstances is not known.

The inquiry may also hear allegations that, had the Union Star been flying the British flag, she would have been required to have seven qualified crew members rather than five. Union Transport, the ship's owners, have denied that.

The inquiry may be held at Penzance. It is expected to cost several hundred thousand pounds and will have full powers to call witnesses. The QC in charge will be assisted by at least two expert assessors as well as master mariners and marine engineers.

Today's inquiry will be conducted by Mr Derrick Pepperell, the Western Cornwall coroner.

# Irish eyes front for the Queen Mother



Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother presenting shamrock and medals to members of the Irish Guards to mark St Patrick's Day at the Guard's Depot at Pirbright, Surrey, yesterday.

# Reaction to police power

## Anderton challenged to justify allegations

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Greater Manchester police committee. Mr Anderton is constantly indulging in right-wing political statements, he said.

Mr Anderton's proposal that police committees should be abolished and replaced by non-political police boards is totally at variance with Labour's attitude to the police, set out last month by Mr Hattersley. He said then that there should be a new Police Act describing where powers lay and giving real powers to police committees. He wanted to see new police authorities set up to determine the policy of the police.

Mr Hattersley has also committed a future Labour government to setting up a new, elected London police authority, ending the traditional role of the Home Secretary as the police authority for the capital.

Mr Anderton received support yesterday from the 21,000-member Professional Association of Teachers, based in the neighbouring county of Derby (our Derby Correspondent writes).

Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of the association, said: "The response of politicians to James Anderton's 'sounds like the protest of guilty children who have been found out'."

Sadly, the subversion of the police force by political interests is only part of the story of what is going on. Efforts by local politicians to take over the control of schools are widespread."

Mr Anderton and his Labour-controlled police committee are likely to have another confrontation tomorrow when, at a special meeting, the chief constable is due to report on recent police action at the Laurence Scott Electro Motor factory in Openshaw during the long-running strike there. (John Chartres writes from Manchester).

In the Laurence Scott Electro Motors dispute the police have frequently been accused of over-protecting the management by the presence of many officers outside the picketed gates. An operation in which chartered helicopters removed machine parts is often singled out for criticism.

At a recent police committee meeting, Mr Anderton was criticized for issuing a report to the press before supplying it to committee members.

Yesterday Mr Colin Barnett, spokesman for the TUC in the North-west, said that Mr Anderton held a list of left-wingers whom he would be prepared to arrest as part of what he saw as "a fight against extremism."

Mr James Jardine, chairman of the Police Federation, pursued his campaign for tougher punishments yesterday with an attack on the government for failure to carry out its promises (Peter Evans writes).

"The public expected a firmer and much more positive response to the challenge of crime," he told police officers in Cardiff. "Instead, we have a series of actions which run counter to that aim."

The abolition of the "sus" law resulted from sustained pressure based on the "downtight lie" that the police deliberately used it to oppress the black community. Its abolition was greeted in the inner cities as a tremendous victory over the police.

"We gave rise to a widespread belief that the police no longer had the power to stop people on the street. This is nonsense but that Act has made life very difficult for police officers working in the worst possible conditions in the inner city," he said.

The switchboard of the Police Federation headquarters in Surrey was jammed throughout the day by callers supporting the campaign for the restoration of the death penalty. Mr Jardine said: "We are giving this warning to the public and Parliament that anarchy could be the order of the day before very long."

The Police Federation repeated that capital punishment should be restored for all types of murder, not simply of policemen, and suggested that juries should have the power to recommend it just as they were able to recommend mercy before the abolition of the death penalty.

However, the campaign came under attack from the National Council for Civil Liberties and the Howard League for Penal Reform.

# The Times' has a new editor

By Donald Macintyre

Mr Charles Douglas-Home yesterday became editor of *The Times*, succeeding Mr Harold Evans who resigned on Monday. The company stated:

The Board of Times Newspapers Holdings Limited and the independent national directors have approved the appointment of Mr Charles Douglas-Home as editor of *The Times*.

His appointment last Friday was made by Times Newspapers Limited subject to those approvals.

The new editor promised the protection of the independent directors during a 15-minute interview with them in the presence of Mr Murdoch, the newspaper's proprietor, whom they invited to attend.

Lord Robens of Woldingham said of the director's authority: "It is very simple. Since we can veto the appointment of an editor though they can't push anyone in. Once he is in the editor's chair then he is in a cocoon and he can't be removed without the consent of the independent directors."

He added: "We are not going to go snooping around. It is not our job to go around saying: 'Are you happy in your work?' If the editor has a problem then he must say so. The only way we can be activated is for him to activate us."

Lord Robens went on to say: "If it ceases to be a paper of record, if it comes sort of downmarket, then we would have to say that the terms on which the paper was purchased were not being carried out."

Lord Robens said that the decision to confirm Mr Douglas-Home's appointment was unanimous and there had been no doubts among the independent directors of his ability to do the job.

He said that there had been no inquest into the troubles of the past few weeks, culminating in the six days' uncertainty which followed Mr Murdoch's Budget Day request to Mr Evans to resign. Nor had any new machinery been devised to facilitate discussions between the editor and the independent directors.

Lord Robens emphasized: "If an editor of *The Times* feels he is being pressured, whether he is or not, then he has an obligation to bear what he has to say and listen to what the management has to say and make a judgment."

The statement by Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, of the conditions attached to the sale of the papers last year provides among other points that: "The editor of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* shall not be appointed or dismissed without the approval of the majority of the independent national directors of TNL."

Only one of the six independent directors were present at yesterday's meeting because Lord Roll of Ipsden, who gave his proxy vote to Lord Robens, was absent. The other four, Lord Greene of Harrow, Lord Dacre of Glanton, Lord Edward Fickering and Mr John Goss, all attended.

Mr Charles Douglas-Home has held many senior editorial posts on *The Times* since joining the newspaper 17 years ago (Richard Evans writes).

His journalistic career began with the *Scottish Daily Express* as a general reporter. In 1961 he moved to the *Daily Express* as Chapman Pincher's deputy, reporting on military affairs as well as science and medicine. He became the newspaper's political and diplomatic correspondent for two years, based at the Commons.

He joined *The Times* in 1965 as defence correspondent and covered the Arab-Israeli war in 1967. A year later he was arrested by a Russian Army unit in Czechoslovakia and held for 14 hours before being expelled from the country.

In 1970 he took over as features editor, a post he held for three years, before being appointed home editor. In 1978 he became foreign editor. On March 9 last year he was appointed deputy editor.

Mr Douglas-Home was born in 1937, the second son of the late Mr Henry Douglas-Home and Lady Margaret Spencer. He is a nephew of the former Prime Minister, Lord Home of the Hirsel.

He was educated at Eton then commissioned into the Royal Scots Greys for national service in 1958. After a year in Canada as a travelling books and advertising salesman he was aide-de-camp to Sir Evelyn Baring, Governor of Kenya, in 1958.

He is the author of four books: *The Arabs and Israel*; *Britain's Reserve Forces*; *Rommel*; and *Boeing Baring: the last Promissal*.

In 1966, he married Miss Jessica Gwyne, the artist and costume designer. They have two sons.

Overseas selling prices: Australia £2.25; Canada \$2.50; Denmark 12.50; France 12.50; Germany 12.50; Hong Kong 12.50; India 12.50; Italy 12.50; Japan 12.50; New Zealand 12.50; Norway 12.50; Portugal 12.50; Singapore 12.50; South Africa 12.50; Sweden 12.50; Switzerland 12.50; Taiwan 12.50; Thailand 12.50; USA 12.50; Yugoslavia 12.50.

# Science Report

## Jumping gene of the sea urchin

By the Staff of "Nature"

A group of molecular biologists in Zurich have been led to the conclusion, failing a more conventional explanation, that a gene has jumped from one species of sea urchin to another within the last million years or so. If that is correct it means that the barrier to genetic exchange conventionally provided by the inability of two species to interbreed can occasionally be breached.

It was while studying species of sea urchins that Dr Meinrad Busslinger, Sandra Rusconi and Dr Max Birnstiel of the Institute of Molecular Biology in Zurich, chanced upon the gene. Their particular interest lies in the genes that code for the family of proteins known as histones, around which the double helix of DNA is wound in chromosomes. Over the past few years Dr Birnstiel's group has been analysing the exact sequence of the histone genes in a species of sea urchin that lives off the coast of Scotland. Parallel studies of sea urchin have been carried out at Stanford University.

The first surprise came when the genes of the two species were compared. Dr Birnstiel and his colleagues found that it had a histone gene almost identical to that of the distant relative with which it cohabited, and further comparisons involving five species of sea urchin confirmed that this near identity of genes was a striking exception to the close correlation between the evolutionary time of separation of any two species of sea urchin and the degree of difference between their histone genes.

Using that correlation one would have to conclude that the two Scottish species separated from a common ancestor less than a million years ago, though the fossil evidence gives a figure of 65 million years.

Source: *The EMBO Journal* (1982).

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# Blind Arthur is on a winner

From Julian Haviland, Political Editor, Hillhead

The likeliest winner of the Glasgow, Hillhead, by-election appeared last night to be Mr Arthur Vine, of No 8 Primrose Street, in Scots-town. After visits and assurances of good will yesterday from each of the four leading candidates, Mr Vine, who is 90 and blind and lives alone, must have a good chance of better housing.

Mr Vine's tenement flat, his home since 1918, is two floors up and he has not been out for two years. He has no bath and must cross an unheated landing to reach his outside lavatory. He does not want to leave Scotland but he told his visitors that he would like a flat at ground level. Mrs Jean Colvin, his cheery home help, thinks he really needs sheltered housing with a warden within reach.

For a crowded hour yesterday, with a score of unbidden visitors in the 12 ft by 20 ft room where he lives and sleeps, Mr Vine let himself be used by Hillhead's three housing associations. One by one he patiently shook the politicians' hands, accepted their half-promises, and listened to them something near to unanimity that more resources for house improvement must be found.

Mr Gerald Malone, the Conservative, said he hoped more public funds would be made available. "I will certainly, on being elected, take your case up. It is essential we should get you out of seriously substandard conditions like this," Mr Malone assured his host.

Mr Roy Jenkins, the SDP Alliance candidate, did not linger, thinking the crowd too much for Mr Vine. But he hoped that they might give him somewhere better.

Mr George Leslie, of the Scottish National Party, and Mr David Wiseman, Labour, each said he would do his best. None, with a week's campaigning left, said anything rash.

In any case, Mr Vine's vote, though he never let on, has already been cast by post. It is for Mr Wiseman.

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# Tebbit spurned by union law opponents

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Trade union leaders yesterday spurned an invitation to attend talks on the Government's labour law reforms, extended by Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment.

They also heard a prediction from Mr Eric Varley, the shadow Secretary of State, that the Cabinet would be forced to authorize a guillotine on the legislation now going through Parliament because of Labour's delaying tactics.

The TUC employment policy committee agreed without dissent to reject Mr Tebbit's proposal to discuss his measures on the grounds that their position was well known and a meeting would serve no purpose. The decision marks a watershed in TUC-Government relations. It is believed to be the first time that unions have formally refused to meet a minister because of policies he is pursuing.

In his letter to Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, Mr Tebbit suggested that the trade unions' view of open hostility on the part of the Government was a misapprehension of his true position. However, the unions insisted that there was no misunderstanding and they have distributed propaganda leaflets to labour movement activists calling on them to "join the fight-back".

Giving a report to the employment committee on the Parliamentary progress of the Bill, Mr Varley said that after 10 committee sittings, totalling 36 hours, MPs were still stuck on the first clause, the so-called "slush fund" of £2m set aside to compensate workers who lost their jobs because of Labour's closed-shop legislation.

He advised the unions that Mr Tebbit would be forced to impose a timetable curtailing discussions of the Bill within the next two weeks because of the slow progress being made.

## Alliance agrees Kent share-out

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Liberal-Social Democrat Alliance has reached agreement, after protracted and difficult negotiations, on the share-out of parliamentary seats in Kent.

Under the deal, which is still provisional, the Liberals will fight nine constituencies and the SDP seven. It has been greeted with relief by senior figures in both parties, because Kent is regarded as one of the most sensitive negotiating units, with several promising seats that each is keen to contest.

The outcome is regarded as a model agreement conforming to the guidelines drawn up between the parties when the negotiating process began. The Liberals will fight Conservative-held Maidstone, which both parties regard as the most winnable and, in accordance with the guidelines, the SDP was given several of the next most attractive propositions, including Thanet, North, Faversham, and the new constituency of Medway, which takes in the present Rochester seat.

It also fulfils the guidelines' objective of achieving a

good spread of seats between the parties across the county.

With the March 31 deadline for countrywide agreement on the share out approaching, the Kent deal is an important boost for the alliance.

Details of the deal, which is based on the proposed new boundaries, is as follows: The SDP will fight Faversham; Thanet, North, Medway; Gravesham (which takes in the present Gravesend seat); Tonbridge and Malling; Dover; and Ashford.

The Liberals will contest Tonbridge Wells; Sevenoaks; Dartford; Canterbury; Thanet, South; Folkestone; Maidstone; Gillingham; and Mid-Kent (covering Chatham and parts of Maidstone).

The SDP's negotiating team was led by Mr John Horan, the party's economic spokesman, and the Liberals by Mr Hugh Jones, the party's secretary-general.

The agreement has to go back to the local parties for approval before being ratified at national level.

Talks between the parties are said to be going well in most parts of the country.

## Labour challenge over cash benefits

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The Government will face renewed pressure to restore the value of child and unemployment benefits when the Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill begins its report stage the Commons today.

Labour MPs have tabled amendments to raise child benefit to £5 a week and to restore the 5 per cent cut in the value of unemployment benefit imposed in 1980 as a temporary measure until the benefit came into tax.

Mr Brynmor Jones, Labour spokesman on social security, said yesterday that the Opposition was seeking to remedy the deficiencies of the Budget and to give Conservative "wets" an opportunity to vote on matters about which they had been vocal beforehand.

The Bill has emerged almost unchanged from the standing committee, although the Government will be seeking to reverse an amendment carried by its own backbenchers which exempts employers from paying national insurance contributions on sick pay.

The Association of British Chambers of Commerce last night supported the two main changes. First, it will transfer from the state to employers the responsibility for sick pay for the first eight weeks of illness. Second, it will integrate housing assistance, ending the present dual system under which housing costs are paid to most supplementary benefit recipients, while others on low income receive rent and rate rebates.

The new sick pay scheme, due to start in April next year, will introduce three flat rates. The standard rate of £37 will be paid to people earning £60 a week and over. Those earning between £45 and £60 a week will be entitled to £31 a week, and those on less than £45 a week will get £25 a week.

The Opposition argues that the rates discriminate against the low paid, who are now entitled to the same rate of sickness benefit as other earners.

Labour MPs say they should be entitled either to the standard rate of sick pay or to their normal net earnings, if lower.

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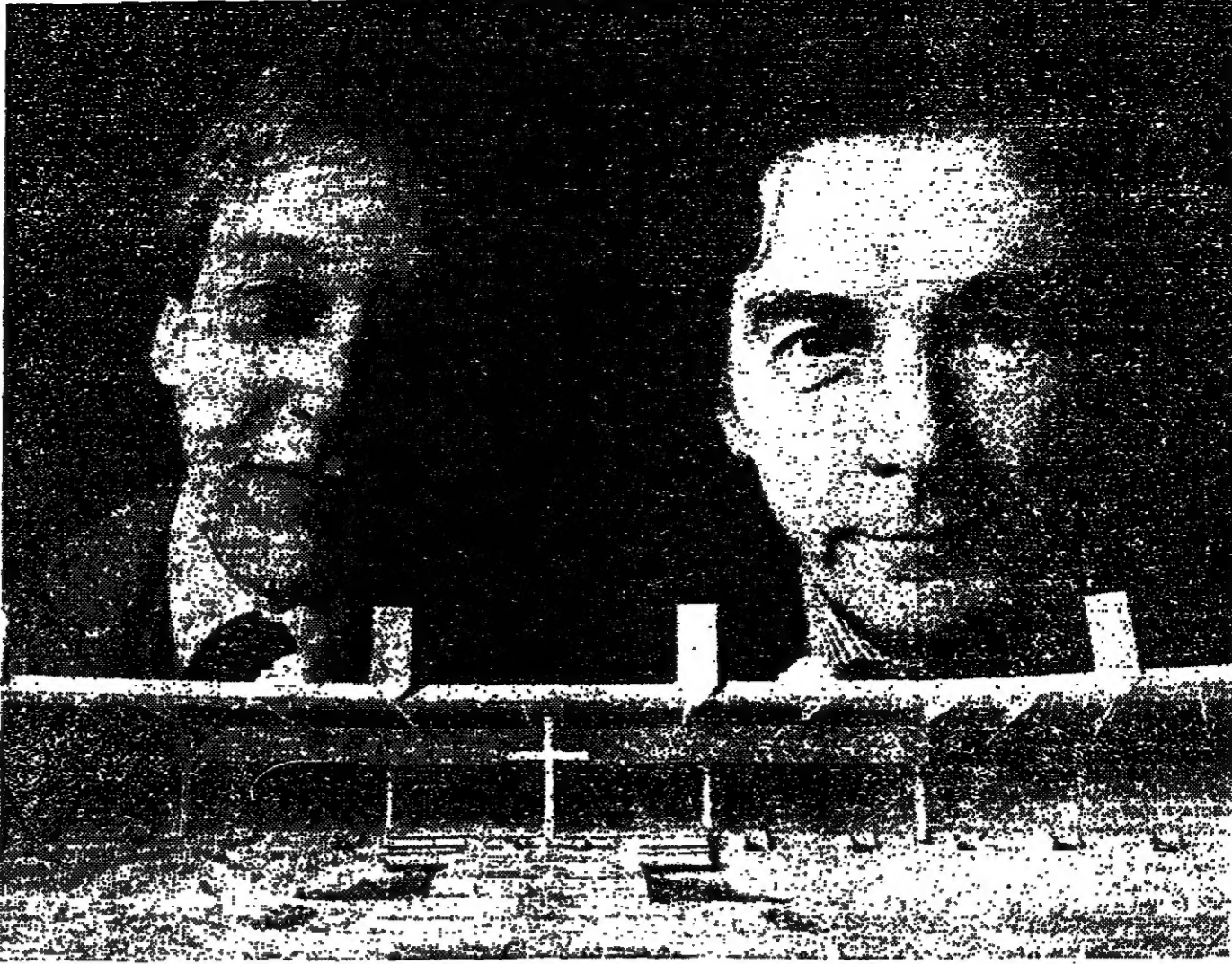
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Mr Murphy (right) and Mr Peter Baker, assistant architect, showing the model of the rotating papal stage

## 36 hours to build Wembley papal podium

More than 40 tons of steel will be supported on piles over the turf of Wembley Stadium, the work will be completed in 36 hours, the architect responsible for arrangements for the papal Mass at Wembley, London, said yesterday (Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent, writes). Mr Gerald Murphy, of Murphy Buries Newton and Partners, said that lorries bearing components for the podium (stage) would be standing by ready loaded, waiting for the midnight starting time for the unusual engineering operation.

The schedule was dictated by the need to allow for the possibility of a replay of the FA Cup. If the match was drawn on Saturday, May 22, Wembley Stadium would be in use again on Thursday, May 27. The transformation of the stadium into something resembling a cathedral to house more than 80,000 people would begin after that.

"We are asking firms to do things which normally they would say are just not on", Mr Murphy said.

The turf had to be covered with wooden boarding and with tarpaulins, public barriers had to be set up in the car parks; and the 44-ton podium structure had to be manoeuvred into place by midday on Saturday, May 29, he said.

Piles would be sunk beforehand into the gravel strip which separates the grass pitch from the greyhound track, and at least one of the 50ft sections of the podium was to be placed and dismantled beforehand, as an experiment.

Mr Murphy said the stadium authorities had been particularly cooperative in planning these arrangements.

The stadium is the main venue for the Pope's visit, and tickets are being allocated by ballot. It was announced yesterday that because of the rising costs it was intended to drop the plan to have banners flying from the stadium lighting masts, and it was no longer intended to decorate the arena.

## Soho sex shops

### Office 'mistaken for brothel'

By Richard Evans

The Soho offices of Private Eye magazine are regularly mistaken for a brothel, a London planning appeal was told yesterday.

Mr George Beach, who was giving evidence for Pressdram, publishers of the magazine, said office secretaries were solicited by people visiting the sex shop below.

"There are various people who, from time to time, visit the shop and are under the impression that the upper floors are used as a brothel. On numerous occasions my clients have their buzzers rung during normal working hours by people who feel they are running a brothel", he said.

Mr Beach said Pressdram formally objected to the appeal by Stonerealm, against an enforcement notice issued by Westminster City Council, alleging infringement of planning regulations at the shop at 34 Greek Street. The appeal is the first of 29 by London sex shop operators.

The council's enforcement orders involve premises in Soho and Paddington allegedly operating without planning permission should be granted.

But Mr Leslie Hardcastle, chairman of the Soho Society, a local amenity group, said there were 164 such establishments in Soho and they were destroying the area. "We are not attacking the sex industry as such, but the proliferation of it."

The sex industry had led to traders moving out of Soho and new enterprises had failed to take their place. People paid high rent to use premises as sex shops and other traders could not compete.

He said some businesses employed touts to attract custom. Some customers roamed the area afterwards "looking for action".

Mr Victor Sassie, proprietor of the Gay Hussar restaurant at 2 Greek Street, Soho, said: "There is not one customer who comes into my restaurant at lunchtime or dinner who does not pass some comment about the pornographic shops down our area. We have reached saturation point."

Mr Leslie Blake, counsel for Stonerealm, said Westminster City Council's policy did not take into account the reality of the situation.

"The plain fact is that, as stated by the council, it is a characteristic of the Soho area to be associated with the sex industry. The city council states it is part of the flavour and character of the area", he said.

There was a demand for the services provided by sex shops and cinemas.

"One does seriously raise the question whether the departure of sex shops would leave a vacuum to be filled by something which may be even more undesirable as far as local people are concerned, something darker and more sinister than the operation of these shops and cinemas."

He accused the council of taking an idealistic view of Soho. Sex establishments conformed with the character of the area and planning

permission should be granted.

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He agreed that there was a strong case for government finance for London's transport, but that was already recognized in an allocation to London of 40 per cent of the available government support for only 12 per cent of the population.

Total grants to London Transport were about £250m, or a third of revenue, which was lower than many cities abroad but higher than some including Tokyo, and London took a quarter of the national roads budget and a quarter of British Rail's subsidy.

"It is a difficult proposition to support that the rest of the country should put its hand even deeper into its pocket to support London", he said.

"It is a crazy system," Mr David Temch, chairman of the consumers' council, said. "With most things you buy, you describe what you want and that is what you get. But with coal it is a lottery."

At the heart of the argument is the grading system employed by the National Coal Board, which the consumer service regards as unsatisfactory. Under the system, coal is graded in three groups, with the first being the most expensive.

The survey showed that most coal users had never heard of the grading system, and often those who had, were muddled about the way it worked. People taking part in the survey showed a clear preference for the middle grades of coal.

As a result of the survey, the council is calling on the Coal Board to introduce a more scientifically based grouping of the fuel, to give consumers a clearer idea of what they are buying.

**Chinese link**

Cardiff is planning to twin with Xiamen, a port and administrative centre on the Pacific coast of China. If the city council accepts the plan, the Chinese Ambassador will probably visit Cardiff later this year.

**'Romans' trial adjourned**

The trial of a National Theatre director for staging a scene of male homosexual rape was adjourned yesterday without further evidence being heard. It will resume today.

Mr Michael Bogdanov, aged 43, director of the play, *The Romans in Britain*, denies procuring and being party to gross indecency between two male actors. The prosecution is being brought privately by Mrs Mary Whitehouse.

Yesterday's hearing was adjourned after less than an hour when Mr Justice Staughton ruled on legal submissions by Lord Hutchinson of Lullington, QC, for Mr Bogdanov, and Mr Ian Kennedy, QC, for the prosecution. Private discussions were continued between counsel.

The jury was sent home at lunchtime on Tuesday after the conclusion of the prosecution case, which consisted of evidence from Mr Graham Rose-Cornes, Mrs Whitehouse's solicitor, on a visit to *The Romans in Britain* in December, 1980.

## NEWS IN SUMMARY

### Littlejohn on robbery charge

Kenneth Littlejohn, who once claimed he was recruited by British intelligence to spy against the IRA, told a court in Chesterfield yesterday that he was innocent of involvement in an armed robbery in Derbyshire (our Chesterfield correspondent writes).

Mr Littlejohn, aged 40, a screenwriter from Birmingham, was identified in court only as Kenneth Austin, his changed surname. He was remanded in custody until tomorrow charged with stealing £15,000 from Mr Terence Hogarth at North Wingfield, near Chesterfield, on Monday, and before doing so putting Mr Hogarth in fear of being subjected to force. Reporting restrictions were lifted.

Mr Philip Blore, for the prosecution, said that at 1 am on Tuesday, West Midlands police stopped a car driven by Mr Littlejohn at Castle Bromwich and found inside a hand gun, 12 rounds of live ammunition, and almost £1,000.

### Petrol bomb maker jailed

Barry McGowan, aged 22, of Bancroft House, Battersea, south London, was jailed for three years by the Central Criminal Court yesterday for possessing petrol bombs intending that they should be used to destroy or damage property.

The prosecution said fingerprints of McGowan's manufacturer, were found on milk bottle bombs which police found in a shed during last summer's riot.

### Body of vicar's wife found

The naked body of Mrs Catriona Mortimer, a vicar's wife and a mother of three, was found in a field in Warwickshire. Her clothes were piled neatly near by and tablets were discovered inside her car found near the field.

The police were trying yesterday to trace her husband, the Rev Lawrence Mortimer, who is on holiday in Germany. Mrs Mortimer, aged 27, of Armorial Road, Coventry, was a student at Warwick University and had recently joined an all-women rock group.

### Pilots escape Hunter crash

A RAF officer and a civilian ejected from a Hawker Hunter jet just before it crashed on take-off at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough, Hampshire, yesterday.

The two, both test pilots, who were taken to the Cambridge Military hospital at Aldershot, were comfortable last night.

### Arsonist hunt after death

A squad of 40 policemen are searching Grimsby for an arsonist after three fires, in one of which a man died.

On Tuesday a woman was rescued by passing dustmen from a fire in her home. Last weekend 14 people were saved from a block of flats when a blaze started on the landing.

### New Act worries rescue men

The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England) fears that the new Wildlife and Countryside Act which excludes most dogs from enclosures or fields with livestock, will impede their rescue work.

It is to seek legal advice on how to press for an amendment to the Act.

**She is just one in half a million**

Children can't understand adults' quarrels. Old people are confused, mothers desperate. Today, 1/2 million innocent victims of conflict are homeless and destitute in El Salvador and neighbouring countries. Their needs are urgent. We are supplying: medical help - drugs, equipment, trained staff; shelter, temporary and permanent; food; clothing; seeds & tools for farmers; help for people to re-build their lives. We need money urgently. Please send as much as you can. Send your contribution with the coupon to the address below. Or through P.O. Giro Acct. No. 50998919.

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**Spring Gardens Number**

Gardens of Garsington Manor  
Tony Venison in an article illustrated in colour describes an Oxfordshire garden that has links with Bloomsbury and with many literary and artistic figures.

Orchids: the Hybrid Takeover  
Prohibition of imported wild plants need not deter the orchid collector, as Wilma Ritterhausen explains.

Using Fruit Trees for Decoration  
Arthur Heller suggests decorative shapes for fruit trees that may be used as ornamental features.

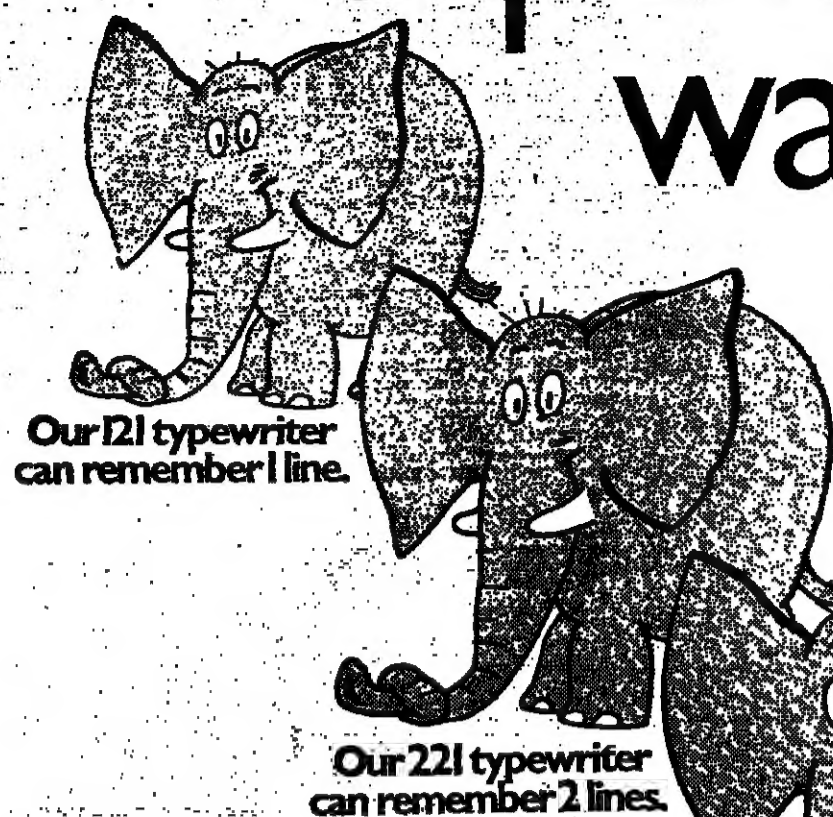
Frostproof Early Spring Shrubs  
Despite the recent freezing temperatures, a wide range of shrubs will be flowering in mid-March, as Roy Lancaster describes.

Pleasure from Tulips  
The merits of different types, starting in March and continuing to the end of May, are assessed by Christopher Lloyd.

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# Whether you need a typewriter or a word processor depends on how much you want to remember.



print it perfectly, as many times as she wants.

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Our 221 typewriter can remember 2 lines.

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It might help you choose if you stop thinking of typewriters and word processors as different animals.

Instead, try seeing them as different sizes of the same animal. With different sizes of memories.

So that some, for example, can store a short phrase like 'yours sincerely'.

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Let's start with a guided tour of our basic model, the Olivetti 121, and work up.

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The first thing you'll notice is how quiet it is. Like someone typing in a cupboard.

When you take the lid off you'll have another surprise.

It seems empty.

Instead of levers, swivel joints, and springs there are microchips and sensors.

And instead of handfuls of clattery keys there's a 'daisy wheel' with all the letters on little stalks.

Whereas the old electric golfballs have about 2500 moving parts, our electronic typewriters have just 100.

This new technology gives you features unknown to the old.

It can centre headings automatically, for instance.

But of course, it's the first vestiges of memory that fascinate most people.

The 121 can store a line of type.

It can't print it back for you, but it can correct any or all of the characters you instruct it to.

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## The growing memory.

It can memorise two lines or 100 words. What's more, it'll show them to you on a visual display panel before it prints them.

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The 351 stores its information on floppy discs, or, as the computer generation insists, 'disks'.

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**olivetti**  
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## Spanish colonel says he fired to obey orders

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, March 17

Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, claimed at the coup trial in Madrid today that he fired his rifle to obey orders from General Alfonso Armada, then deputy Army chief, that the assault must be bloodless.

"I was surprised to see when I got to the speakers' tribune that I was alone. Firing a disarming shot at the foot, and telling the MPs to get down on the floor, was the only way," the colonel stated. He added that in the lengthy preparation to seize the building he had "learned a lot about Parliament," including that some MPs were armed. He admitted firing his gun twice.

Colonel Tejero, who faces a 30-year prison sentence for military rebellion if convicted, was tackled by the chief prosecutor in his cross-examination about the events during the 12 hours he held Parliament captive. Among those he detained was Señor Adolfo, then Prime Minister, and General José Aramburu, his chief of staff of the paramilitary Civil Guard.

"I saw the Civil Guard with me beginning to salute their chief, and I realised I had to resolve the situation otherwise the whole operation would collapse," Colonel Tejero said, by way of explaining why he had ordered the MPs to get down on the floor. He said that if he separated the parliamentary leaders then the rest of the MPs would stay quiet.

Colonel Tejero said he ordered the protesting Prime Minister out of the chamber, together with the other party leaders, because he feared they would become "trouble-makers." He calculated, he said, that if he separated the parliamentary leaders then the rest of the MPs would stay quiet.

Often displaying more intelligence than he had been credited with in earlier trials, Colonel Tejero emphasized

## Stormy end to Bilbao abortion trial

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, March 17

The Bilbao abortion trial ended close to midnight yesterday after many courtroom incidents and clashes between women protesters and police in several Spanish cities. The verdict and sentences are expected within a few days.

The prosecution reduced the sentence sought for Señora Julia García Navarro, the alleged abortifacient, from 60 years to 12 years and six months after hearing allegations of police brutality and in view of the scant evidence. The requested sentences for the other accused were reduced to six months and a day from five to 55 years. He recommended acquittal of a woman who admitted visiting Señora Navarro but did not have an abortion.

Disturbances in the courtroom included insults shouted at the prosecutor by spectators, a fainting spell by the accused abortionist and the arrest and expulsion of her angry husband. Abortion is illegal in Spain and controversy has been raging. In Malaga today the Women's Assembly Organisation claimed that youths wielding clubs attacked a dozen women as they were putting up pro-abortion posters.

In Barcelona, guards outside the Generalitat, the headquarters of the Catalan home-rule government, yesterday fought feminists who tried to enter the building.

He claimed that it was Major José Gordina, then chief of the Special Operations section of the Defence Ministry's Intelligence Service, who had set the February 23 date for the seizure of Parliament. "It was a stupendous opportunity," he said, for on that day the 300 MPs would be voting Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo in as the new Prime Minister.

Colonel Tejero refused to give any names when pressed if civilians were also involved in the plotting. "I do not know about that, that did not interest me," he said, explaining that he did not want any civilians to be involved, for it was within his alone who could solve Spain's problems.

## Obscenities shouted at Red Brigades trial

Verona, March 17. — An alleged Red Brigades member standing in connection with the kidnapping of Brigadier-General James Dozier was expelled from the courtroom today for using vulgar language after a judge refused to let him talk about his claims of torture.

Cesare di Leonardo, aged 23, began his testimony by reading a prepared statement saying that the Red Brigades treated their prisoners well compared with how he had been treated after his arrest. Judge Francesco Pulcini interrupted him and said he could talk only about matters directly concerning the kidnapping, and not his claims of torture. Signor Eduardo di Giovanni, Signor Leonardo's lawyer, objected saying that other defendants had been allowed to speak about their personal views and their allegations of mistreatment by the police.

When the judge overruled the objection, di Leonardo shouted: "Just as you used electric shocks in our balls you can also cut off our tongues and keep us from talking."

He and another defendant, Armando Lanzetta, have filed complaints of torture with the court. The judge has forwarded the letters to investigating magistrates in Venice. Yesterday, Magistrate Riccardo Ambrosini of the Venice police, about the allegations.

Captains Ambrosini last week admitted that he was one of the sources for an article on alleged police torture of Red Brigades prisoners in the left-wing weekly magazine L'Espresso.

Four Red Brigades suspects testified today on their



Behind bars: Emilia Libera and Giovanni Ciucci inside a steel cage protected by bullet-proof glass during the Red Brigades trial in Verona.

role in the kidnapping of General Dozier and said they had abandoned their armed struggle against the state.

Giovanni Ciucci, aged 23, who is alleged to have had a pistol pointed at General Dozier's head when the police rescued him, said in court: "I had all the time I needed to shoot the General. I could not succeed in seeing him as an enemy but only as

a man who was sleeping." He added that the General's death "would not have been a success for the Red Brigades."

He was in the tent with the General on the morning of January 28 when his comrade, Antonio Savasta, came and told him the police were coming. "Savasta gave me a pistol. The General was still sleep-

ing. The General woke up when the police broke the door down. I tried to tell him with gestures to stay calm, that nothing would happen."

Also testifying today were Ruggero Volinia, aged 25, who said he drove the getaway car the night General Dozier was kidnapped on December 17, Armando Lanzetta, aged 32, and Roberto Zanca, 27. — AP. Reuter.

## Ministers sue over Mafia deal allegation

From John Earle, Rome, March 17

Two Christian Democratic members of the Government today denied having acted as intermediaries with the Camorra, the Neapolitan Mafia, last year to arrange a ransom for the release by the Red Brigades of a prominent local politician from their party, Signor Ciriolo.

Signor Ciriolo, who was kidnapped in April and released in July, has admitted payment of a 1,450 lire (£530,000) ransom, but says it came from his family and friends.

Yesterday and today, the Communist Party organ L'Unita in front-page reports alleged that Signor Vincenzo Scotti, the minister of the Merchant Marine, who are both Neapolitans, visited a noted leader of the Camorra in jail last spring and asked for his intervention to negotiate with the Red Brigades for Signor Ciriolo's release.

The ransom, according to L'Unita, was provided in banknotes and gold ingots by a bank in Puglia against a guarantee from a public sector insurance company, and was paid in three instalments.

Senator Giovanni Spadolini, the Prime Minister and Republican, today called in Signor Scotti, who afterwards in a statement denied having had any contact with the Camorra or Red Brigades.

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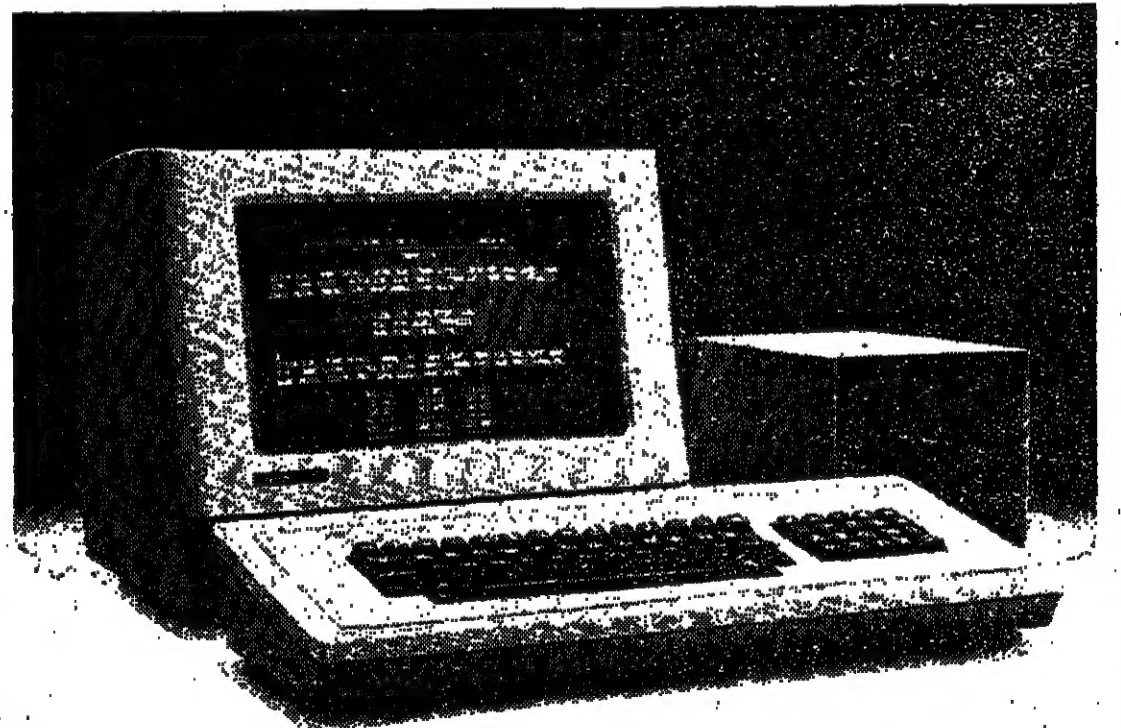
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## French poll wrangle

## Minister accused of cooking figures

From Charles Hazgrove, Paris, March 17

French politics occasionally confounds even the French themselves. Last Sunday's national elections raised a "characteristically French argument about the exact position in the political spectrum of that strange species of voters catalogued by the Ministry of the Interior as "diverse left".

The controversy has raged in political circles and in the press on whether the ministry was right in lumping them with the left — or whether they should be counted with the right.

The controversy conjures up memories of the celebrated council of war in Fanfan-la-Tulipe, in which the commander-in-chief of the royal armies suggested that the best way of disorienting the king's enemies would be to put the right wing on the left and the left on the right.

It all arose because a public opinion institute forecast on Sunday that the opposition would lead with 51.5 per cent, thanks largely to the 1.54 per cent of voters of the "diverse left". Six hours later, M. Gaston Defferre, Minister of the Interior, cut down the opposition vote to 49.92 per cent (and 49.59 for the left) by subtracting those 200,000 voters who had been "abusively" reckoned with it. This did not alter the fact that the left had suffered a setback, but it made it look less like a defeat.

The opposition, however, was prompt to accuse the minister of cooking the figures, and pointed out that if the "diverse left" were added to the score of the left in the last cantons of 1976, the left's discomfiture on

Sunday was even greater, and instead of losing four points it had lost six.

M. René Remond, a well known political scientist, remarked that ministers of the interior have always resorted to that pocket recipe which enables the "diverse" left or right voters to be accounted for here or there.

For his part, M. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, said the opinion pollsters had been quite right to add the "diverse left" to the right, because many of their 246 candidates had stood against Socialists or Communists.

Some enterprising reporters went out in search of these strange political animals. They discovered that they were often dissident Socialists, opposed to the Union of the Left, or left-wing or progressive Gaullists, or dissident centrists who challenge the left with the votes of the right, or "social" democrats who would not hurt a capitalist fly, as the left-wing Libération puts it.

One of them is M. Jacques Brache, the left-wing Gaullist deputy Mayor of Montreuil, south-east of Paris, who had been on the staff of M. Jean Royer, the conservative Minister of Trade under the old regime, and is now on the staff of M. Jack Ralhe, the Communist Minister of Health under the new.

He said on the radio without turning a hair that a "diverse left" candidate could of course be of the right, that was why the Ministry of the Interior had a classification called "diverse right".

Even the interviewer, inured to such political gymnastics, admitted that he was nonplussed.

## Turk faces 21,572 years' jail

From Our Correspondent, Ankara, March 17

At the end of a 10-month trial on charges of Turkish Government minister was sentenced last night to 36 years' imprisonment for corruption and influence peddling.

Mr Tuncay Mataryay, an Independent, who served as Minister of Customs and State Monopolies in the Social Democrat Government of Mr Bulent Ecevit, was given the maximum sentence for the crimes under Turkish law as an "exemplary punishment".

Mr Mataryay will have to pay a fine of 787,386,166 Turkish Lira (£3m) to deter future attempts at self-enrichment.

## FOOD AID POLICY CRITICIZED

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi, March 17

The increasing shortage of food in Africa, where per capita production has fallen by 15 per cent in the last decade, is partly a result of the inability of international organizations and donor countries to stimulate food production in African countries.

African ministers of the World Food Council (WFC), a United Nations-backed watchdog body based in Rome, ended a two-day meeting here today by endorsing a report calling for urgent action to stimulate food production in Africa.

Government and international agencies should give priority to food for local use, rather than to export crops, the report suggests.

The focus of food policy planning in Africa must be the African farmer, who will respond positively to improved services and incentives, such as higher prices for his products.

## cation

its work in engineering could consider support were obtained for an UGC had also continued work centres on application processors in science. Heriot-Watt had been by the Department as a centre for work microprocessor applications.

UGC was also planning support for biotechnology grant allocations for 1982, a limited number of titles.

was convinced that the strategy was right and that to come it would have been extraordinarily

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James Douglas-Hamilton, West, said many of the government's policy were diminishing need for

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Change of milk code by Nestlé

Washington. — Nestlé of Switzerland has agreed to respect World Health Organization restrictions on advertising powdered milk, the company announced here today.

Religious, union and consumer organizations have boycotted Nestlé's powdered milk since July 1977 because of the company's promotion campaign in the Third World, accusing it of encouraging mothers not to nurse their babies.

On May 21 last year, the United States drew protest by voting against adoption of the WHO code, which prohibits mass media advertising of powdered milk for infant feeding and also distributing of free samples.

OECD chief to stay in office

Paris. — Mr Emile van Lennep, secretary-general of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), has agreed to serve out the rest of his term until the end of 1984, the organization announced.

The decision to keep the former Dutch civil servant in office ends a stalemate among the organization's 24 member countries, who were said to be unable to agree on a possible successor. Mr van Lennep, aged 67, has been head of the OECD secretariat for 12 and a half years and had planned to leave the post at the beginning of next month.

Airline seeks wage cuts

Brussels. — Sabena airlines has asked its staff to accept wage cuts of up to 17 per cent to help the company, in severe financial difficulties, save a billion francs (about £11m) this year.

The proposed cuts for the 10,000 Sabena workers were part of a series of austerity measures announced by Mr Carlos van Rafeleghen, the airline's president, including compulsory retirement at the age of 55 for aircrews.

Poet stifled by acclaim

Athens. — The public demands that go with the Nobel Prize are so great that Mr Odysseus Elytis says he has not written a line of poetry since he won the prize in 1979.

US presses on with navy war games off Libya

From Mohsin Ali, Washington, March 17

The United States is expected to hold fresh naval manoeuvres off the coast of Libya in the Gulf of Sirte, where United States aircraft shot down two Soviet-built Libyan aircraft during manoeuvres last August.

Mr John Lehman, the Navy Secretary, who yesterday forecast the possibility of new naval exercises, said that he did not know when they would take place. But, he said, it was a safe assumption that it could be within six months.

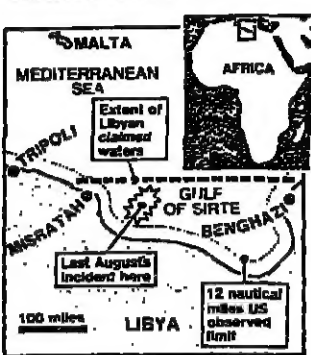
A United States Navy spokesman said today that the Gulf of Sirte, which Libya claims as coastal waters, was an ideal place for naval exercises and missile practice because it would not interrupt ordinary Mediterranean commercial traffic.

Mr Lehman said: "We will not be intimidated from our international rights" by Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, any more than "we were before".

Other sanctions included the banning of export to Libya of American high technology items which could have both civilian and military uses.

Last December, President Reagan called on the 1,500 Americans living in Libya — most of them working on the oil fields — to leave the country as soon as possible because of the danger to them by Colonel Gaddafi's government.

The State Department said the measures were in response to continuing Libyan activity which violated accepted international norms of behaviour. "Libya's large financial resources, vast supplies of Soviet weapons, and active efforts to promote instability and terrorism make it a serious threat to a large number of nations and individuals, particularly in the Middle East and Africa."



□ The Libyans' claim that their territorial waters extend 12 nautical miles beyond a line drawn at latitude 32 degrees, 30 minutes north (Denis Taylor writes). They thus present the whole of the Gulf of Sirte as an inland sea.

According to the Americans, their aircraft last August shot down Libyan fighters about 15 to 20 miles south of the claimed Libyan limit. But the United States legally recognizes only a three-mile territorial limit, while observing 12 miles. The Americans say the incident last year occurred about 60 miles from the nearest point.

The Libyan counterclaim is that the distance was less than 30 miles. In any case, Tripoli's claim has no basis in international law.

In 1974, the United States affirmed that a Libyan claim that part of the Gulf of Sirte was Libyan territorial waters, was in violation of international law. Besides, the claim covered waters which could not be regarded historically as Libyan.

Under present international law, only a state with a bay measuring 24 miles or less across at its entrance can regard the waters thus enclosed as territorial. The width of the Gulf of Sirte completely excludes it from consideration.

Forecast of the new exercises came after continued strong United States disapproval of the Libyan Government, which the Reagan Administration accuses of supporting international terrorism and subversion.

President Reagan last week



Haughey finds harmony

Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, attending a St Patrick's Day Mass in Washington with his wife before having talks and lunch with President Reagan yesterday (Nicholas Ashford writes).

President Reagan is proud of his and his wife's Irish ancestry and has paid considerable personal attention to the Northern Ireland problem since his inauguration. He has offered American assistance to help to achieve a lasting solution if this is sought by both Dublin and London.

Since then Mr William Clark, the

National Security Adviser, has visited Ireland and Britain, and the Administration has expressed its satisfaction at the outcome of last November's meeting between the British and Irish Prime Ministers.

American policy towards Northern Ireland has the broad support of both the Irish and British Governments, and yesterday's talks were not expected to encounter any new obstacles. However, President Reagan is keenly aware there is a vocal section of the American-Irish population which would like the Administration to take a stronger line on Irish unity.

Shortly before the two leaders met, a group of 52 senators and congressmen said they were committed to the goal of Irish unity based on reconciliation between Protestants and Catholics. The group, known as The Friends of Ireland, said "unity they had in mind could not be achieved by the bomb or the bullet, nor the official coercion of any section of the community, but by the consent, freely given, of a majority of all people of Northern Ireland."

The group includes prominent American-Irish congressmen such as Mr Edward Kennedy and Mr Thomas O'Neill.

British setback for Buckley mission

By Our Foreign Staff

A United States delegation led by Mr James Buckley, a senior State Department official, yesterday received a further setback to its hopes of rallying European support behind a new programme of economic and financial pressures on the Soviet Union in the wake of the Polish crisis.

During a day of talks in London with Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, and other senior officials from the Foreign Office, the Americans were told that the British Government did not consider the time ripe for a limitation of new export credits to Moscow.

After abandoning its attempt to persuade West Europeans to end financial assistance for the Siberian gas pipeline deal, the Reagan Administration now wants the Europeans to stop all further subsidized export credits and export insurance

guarantees.

In a newspaper interview earlier this week, Lord Carrington explained that he was not in favour of introducing more economic measures against the Soviet Union at this stage because the West had to keep some cards up its sleeve in case the situation in Poland worsened. The Foreign Secretary and his officials were understood to have also pointed out that British industrial trade with the Soviet Union was much more important to the British economy than American industrial trade with Moscow was to the United States.

Mr Buckley and his colleagues, who visited Paris and Bonn earlier this week, had heard similar arguments from the French and West German Governments. After his talks in London he was travelling on to Rome and Brussels for discussions with Italian, Nato and EEC officials.

Britain sinks wine plan

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 7

Britain today blocked proposals by the European Commission to cut the wine surplus and ease the wine war between France and Italy. The proposals before the Agricultural Council were to buy in 7,000,000 hectolitres of wine for conversion into alcohol.

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith,

Cartoonist tells of scoop offer

From Moshe Brilliant, Jerusalem, March 17

Mr Ranan Lurie, the political cartoonist of *The Times*, testified today that details of Mr Menachem Begin's mental state volunteered by Mr Arye Naor, the Cabinet secretary, had partly influenced his cartoon showing the Prime Minister kicking the globe apart.

Mr Lurie was cross-examined for the second day today before a civil service disciplinary court as the chief witness against Mr Naor, who is charged with conduct unbecoming a civil servant liable to damage the state.

Mr Naor, he stated, had volunteered scoops, including information about Mr Begin, in 1980 because he wanted a job with *Die Welt*, the West German newspaper, which Mr Lurie then represented. Mr Naor had expected the Likud Government to fall.

Among the items allegedly offered by the Cabinet secretary was a purported dialogue between President Carter and Herr Schmidt in the course of which Mr Carter allegedly told the Federal Chancellor that he was better placed to exert political pressure on Israel because there were no Jews in West Germany.

Mr Naor leaked the story five days before the American presidential elections remarking that it would knock Mr Carter out of office. The trial continues.

Americans land troops in Sinai

From Christopher Walker, Tel Aviv, March 17

More than 600 combat troops from the elite 82nd Airborne Division, the main unit in the United States rapid deployment force, landed in southern Sinai today to join the multi-national peace-keeping force.

They arrived direct from their base in North Carolina. A proposal that they should parachute had been overruled.

They will be joined by other Americans and forces from nine other countries, including Britain, to make up the 2,500-strong force that will patrol Sinai.

The American decision to base members of the rapid deployment force in Sinai has caused consternation in the Arab world and today their commander, Lieutenant Colonel William Garrison, attempted to dispel fears that the force might be available for other duties in the event of a Middle East flare-up.

"We do not anticipate any change in our mission. We are assigned to the multi-national force and we will follow the orders of the multi-national force," he said.

Under terms agreed between Israel, Egypt and the United States, the force will begin operating in April 25. It will be charged with reporting any breaches of the 1979 peace treaty and maintaining freedom of navigation through the strategic Strait of Tiran.

Other troops will be supplied by Fiji, Colombia, Uruguay and The Netherlands. Britain will contribute 35 members to the headquarters; Italy a naval unit; Australia and New Zealand the joint unit of 10 helicopters and France a field hospital and fixed-wing aircraft.

The arrival of the American troops was warmly welcomed during a joint press conference in Tel Aviv by Mr Kamal Hassan Ali, Egypt's Foreign Minister and Mr Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Defence Minister.

Out of the shadows of exile

By Hazhir Teimourian

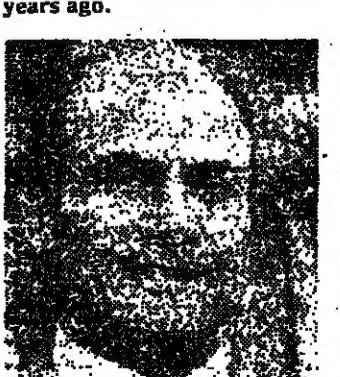
Admiral Ahmad Madani, the former Iranian Defence Minister, alleged last week to have received millions of dollars in secret from the United States to set up a military force to combat any Communist takeover of Iran after Ayatollah Khomeini's death, has come out of the shadowy world of political exiles he has inhabited since leaving Iran in September, 1980.

In an exclusive, three-hour interview with *The Times*, he said the reports, first published in the *New York Times* and attributed to sources within the United States intelligence organizations, were in the main untrue, though he would welcome aid requiring no commitments in return.

"The only commitment that is acceptable to me," he said, "is to the freedom of the Iranian people from the yoke of the evil men who have usurped our revolution."

The articles in *The New York Times* had alleged that Mr Madani and General Bahrman Arjmand, a former Chief of Staff under the Shah, were training 6,000 Iranian officers and men in south-east Turkey, with the aim of being the larger body.

Asked to confirm or deny that he commanded such troops, he burst into an old Persian poem to the effect that no gentleman would reveal the secrets of the love



Admiral Madani: Hiding behind an old Persian poem.

He described the nationalists as separatists in league with Iraq and right-wing governments in the West who feared the Iranian revolution, though they also received aid from extreme left-wing groups. "I want to preserve the full cultural diversity of all the various peoples of Iran," he said. "I want as much devolution of power away from the central Government as is possible."

He then, however, burst into another poem to the effect that: love among the people mattered most. "Then, even Hindus and Turks could become the truest of compatriots," Mr Madani says he has followed the course of Iranian politics all his life, since he joined the social-democratic National Front of Dr Mossadeq, the late Prime Minister, in the early 1950s, while still training at the Naval College in Portsmouth.

When he was expelled in 1971 from the Iranian Navy by the Shah, for insisting on the need to end widespread corruption in the armed forces, his attachment to the opposition was a contributing factor because he subsequently devoted a great deal of his time to semi-clandestine activities in liberal circles.

After the revolution in February, 1979, he became governor of Khuzistan Province and Minister of Defence in the government of Mr Mehdi Bazargan. In the presidential elections of 1980 he was runner-up to Mr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, who is also in exile.

Asked about Mr Bani-Sadr and other contenders for power, he said that cooperation among all such patriots is essential if Iran is to be saved from further suffering.

The coded words of UN fear in Lebanon

From Robert Fisk, Tibnin, southern Lebanon, March 17

Lieutenant-General William Callaghan, the commander of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil), regards himself as a discreet man. So his public appeal this morning for a continuation of the ceasefire between Israelis and Palestinians in the south of the country was couched in the veiled, optimistic terms which he probably felt befitted St Patrick's day. Before his reviewing stand stood his own Irish United Nations Soldiers, sprigs of shamrock wilting on their blue berets in the midday heat.

But even the ebullient general could not hide his concern at the prospects for a continued peace in his corner of the Middle East's most tormented country. The time was holding, he said, and there was no reason why it should not continue to do so. Yet his little speech was laced with those code words that always indicate the United Nations' disquiet.

"Inflammatory provocative statements" had been made. Statements based on "short-sighted self-interests" did not serve the cause of peace. There were, the general said, "parties who often demand performance from the United Nations in line with their own interests and then do not hesitate in obstructing our work."

The general did not identify these parties, but he stared out across the heads of Syrian troops who had crossed the "notional" red line set by the Israelis in southern Lebanon and occupied an observation post in Beaufort Castle high above the Litani river. If this were indeed the case, it would have been a serious — perhaps an fatal — breach of the ceasefire, as Beaufort commands a prospect far into Israel.

The United Nations believes that only the Palestinians are inside the crumbling keep.

But there are other reasons why the United Nations' commander should feel ill at ease just now. At a brief press conference at the Irish battalion's headquarters town of Tibnin during the afternoon, the general made it clear that he would not necessarily have the sole and final decision over the deployment of the 1,000 United Nations troops which are expected to arrive in Lebanon within the next three weeks. In a specific military situation, he said, he would take the decision. But where there were "political nuances" involved, he would have to discuss the matter with the United Nations headquarters in New York.

And therein — though he did not say so — lies General Callaghan's present dilemma. United Nations officers claim that the new troops should be deployed along the 12-mile gap that separates the two United Nations zones of operations in Southern Lebanon, thus preventing an Israeli land invasion from the south. They also say that General Callaghan favours this deployment. But in New York, the Americans are said to be applying pressure against the idea.

Even if the logistical gap was bridged, however, it would not be of much use if the Israelis entered Lebanon from the south. General Callaghan refused to say whether he had issued any contingency orders to his men to resist armoured forces who might enter his southern lines. All he would say was that the power of the United Nations in southern Lebanon came from "its international moral strength."

A young Norwegian officer was somewhat blunter in private conversation today. "The Israelis say they are coming through the gap," he said, "we will protect it, and then get our heads down. They will go right through us and no-one will start shooting at them. We could not stop the Israelis if we tried."

Qaboos attacks Russian Middle East expansion

By Edward Mortimer

A solution to the Palestinian problem is necessary to halt "the interference in the Arab world of the forces of Soviet Imperialism, which exploits the situation for its own ends," Sultan Qaboos said at a banquet in his honour at Guildhall.

The Sultan, who is on the second day of his state visit to Britain, earlier in the day held "extremely friendly and cordial talks" with Mrs Thatcher, who entertained him at lunch at Downing Street.

Sultan Qaboos's speech revealed him as a man very much on Mrs Thatcher's wavelength. He said that Oman had "fully demonstrated its determination to carry out its responsibilities

both in protecting the flow of oil to the world through our territorial waters of the Strait of Hormuz and in defending our national sovereignty against foreign-inspired and supported aggression which has threatened that flow in jeopardy." This was an allusion to the insurrection supported by Marxist forces in the South Yemen which the Sultan's British-officer army defeated in the mid-1970s.

He was convinced, he added, that "our friends in the West have an important responsibility as well as a vital national interest to play their part in solving the problems that confront the Middle East today."

Photograph, page 14

A commission in the Army. How and when to apply.

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Within these limits, there are a number of possibilities that might appeal to you.

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We'll also explain about tax-free gratuities for Short Service Commissioned Officers — currently £3030 after 3 years — and pensions for Regular Commissioned Officers.

Address your letter to Major John Floyd, Dept. B7, Army Officer Entry, Lamdowne House, Berkeley Square, London W1X 6AA.

هكذا في الجيش



## NEWS IN SUMMARY

## Fake kidnap suspected in Granada

Granada. — Spanish police have detained the wife of West Germany's honorary consul in Granada on the suspicion that she faked her own kidnapping for ransom last summer, police said.

Frau Maria Magdalena Horwitz was taken into custody after an investigation into her three-week disappearance and a magistrate will decide if she is to face charges. She vanished from Granada on August 24 and reappeared in the southern Portuguese port of Faro on September 16 saying she had been abducted. Her husband received two ransom demands but no money was paid, police said.

The consul has been cleared of any involvement but several people have been arrested in Germany in connection with her disappearance.

## Rawlings shuns ballot box

Accra. — The parliamentary system in Ghana ended with the December 31 takeover of the country by a Provisional National Defence Council, its chairman, flight-lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, has indicated.

The Ghanaian leader told a meeting at Bolgatanga in the country's upper region that "we are not going to put any damned paper into any box for anybody", implying there would be no more legislative elections.

## Airliner catches fire on takeoff

Sana'a. — Four people were slightly injured when an Air France airliner with 150 people on board caught fire on takeoff from Sana'a airport in North Yemen.

The fire started in one of the engines of the Airbus and spread to the flight deck. The airport was closed and incoming flights were diverted.

## Mother not told of Shah's death

Paris. — The mother of the Shah of Iran, Tajol-Molouk Pahlavi, died a week ago without knowing of the death of her son in July, 1980, the Shah's son, Reza, said in a statement here.

She was not told to spare her shock because of her age and poor health. Mrs. Pahlavi died in Mexico on March 10 from a heart attack. She was 90.

## FBI foils plot to invade Haiti

Miami. — Fifteen armed people allegedly planning to invade Haiti were being escorted back to Miami yesterday after Federal Bureau of Investigation agents intercepted them at sea.

They were charged with violating neutrality laws by setting sail from the United States to invade a friendly nation. It was the second alleged attempt this year to overthrow the regime of President "Baby Doc" Duvalier. The first attempt in January, was also thwarted.

## Squatter city survives vote

Copenhagen. — The Danish Parliament narrowly voted for a government plan to allow Christiansia, Copenhagen's controversial "free city" squatter settlement seen up in 1971, to survive (Christopher Elliott writes).

The decision came after a day-long debate in which right-wing parties had called for the closure of Christiansia, a former military barracks set along the city's waterfront, ramparts, occupied by a group of 900 students, squatters and hippies.

## Havana purges corruption

Havana. — The Cuban Government has arrested about 100 people in the past few days in a campaign to clean up state and private businesses.

In addition to managers, dispatchers and employees of 30 state-run businesses, about 300 people were detained for renting their services as waiters at food stores or for buying food to sell at a profit. Some are said to work in groups to gain control of the shop queues.

## Angolans fear fresh raids

Paris. — Angola has accused South Africa of preparing to launch with Western support a fresh offensive and to kill leading Angolan politicians.

The charge issued by the Angolan Embassy here came after a South African raid into Angola. In Pretoria, a defence spokesman dismissed the Angolan statement as ridiculous.

## Prison dilemma

Pontiac. — Ricardo Ellington is going to jail for theft, but officials do not know whether it will be a woman's or men's prison. He is midway through a series of sex-change operations.

## The Brezhnev missile proposals

## Western coolness greets Eastern promise

From Michael Maynes, Moscow, March 17

While the Soviet press today declared that the world's attention was riveted on the Kremlin, Western analysts were taking a cool hard look at President Brezhnev's circumscribed offer to freeze deployment of Soviet SS20 missiles.

Newspapers portrayed the proposals as an important initiative to speed progress towards East-West agreement on limiting medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe. They drew attention to the offer by printing the relevant parts of Mr. Brezhnev's speech to the Soviet-Trade Union Congress in bold type, and Tass reported effusive praise from communist and Western capitals.

The Russians have so far glossed over the cool American reaction, although quotations from East European papers said the United States Administration had discredited itself in the world's eyes by its attitude.

"It is becoming increasingly obvious in the light of the Soviet proposals that the concept of restraint, which is seeking to conduct talks from a position of strength, has no real foundation," the Hungarian party paper *Nepszabadsag* said today.

Western diplomats here were giving careful attention to Mr. Brezhnev's blunt warning that if NATO went ahead with the deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles next year, the Russians would take retaliatory measures and create an analogous situation for the United States.

Western sources say this appears to suggest the Russians are ready to install similar medium-range missiles within striking distance of American territory, either in Cuba or another country in the Western hemisphere.

There is also doubt the deliberate vagueness Mr. Brezhnev's statement that the Russians would call off their moratorium as soon as NATO governments began practical preparations for the installation of the missiles. The weapons are scheduled to be in place by the end of next year, so such preparations could be deemed to begin at almost any time, suggesting the freeze could last only a few months.

President Brezhnev, whose hour-long address yesterday was shown in full on Soviet Television last night, was awarded yet another medal today. The world federation of trade unions, a body closely allied to the communist block, presented him with a gold medal.

Brussels. Dr. Joseph Luns, NATO's Secretary-General, said here today that it was questionable whether the Soviet Union's offer was unilateral in any meaningful sense since it would continue only if the United States and her allies refrained from deploying the Pershing 2 and cruise missiles (Frederick Bonhart writes).

While the Soviet Union had deployed 300 SS20s with 900 warheads, 200 of them in its European territory, and still retained 300 older missiles, NATO as yet had no missiles in

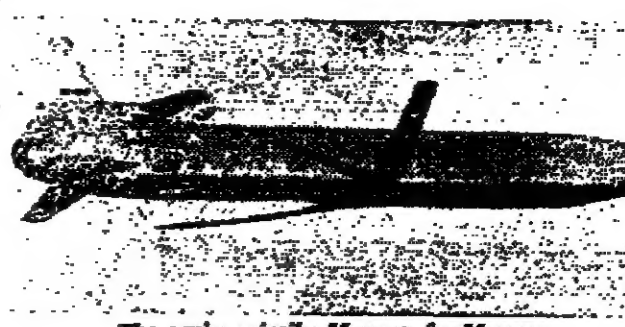


Pershing 2 missile: Heading for Europe.

this category, so the Soviet advantage would be frozen. (Bonn: West Germany said today that President Brezhnev's offer was aimed at maintaining the Soviet lead and insisted again that both sides should do away with medium-range weapons (Patricia Clough writes).

West Germany is due to be the site of most of NATO's future missiles and therefore the main target of the Soviet weapons.

A formal statement issued after the weekly Cabinet meeting said Mr. Brezhnev's offer was a repetition of earlier proposals. It pointed out that the Soviet Union



The cruise missile: Message for Moscow

Mr. Brezhnev: Vague. Mr. Reagan: Unimpressed. Dr. Luns: Questioning. Herr Schmidt: Dismissive.

could still strike at West Europe with its three-headed SS20s stationed east of the Urals and that the moratorium did not prevent it placing further missiles there.

"In the Government's view it is crucial that tangible results of the negotiations in Geneva should be achieved by the end of summer 1983." The statement said. "It urges a complete bilateral renunciation of land-based, medium-range weapons (and) measures the significance of the Soviet decision in terms of that aim."

Mr. Brezhnev's announcement, it said, indicated great

## Shooting breaks out in war of words

By David Cross

President Brezhnev's latest offer to freeze Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe at their present level, has again brought into sharp focus the almost total lack of progress being made in East-West arms reduction talks.

Since December, 1979, when NATO formally accepted the dual-track approach to intermediate nuclear weaponry in Europe — deployment of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles unless Moscow agree to cut its SS20 missiles — neither the Soviet Union, nor the United States has shown much willingness to do more than trade rhetorical gestures.

Even before this decision, the Salt 2 strategic arms limitation treaty was under attack in the United States Congress. The Afghanistan intervention by Soviet troops at the end of that year

finally made it impossible for Mr. Carter to obtain Senate ratification of Salt 2 and the draft agreement was put in the congressional pending tray where it remains.

The long hiatus in any real American involvement in international diplomacy occasioned by the 1980 presidential election campaign lasted until the beginning of last year when President Reagan took office. In spite of constant prodding by European allies, most notably the West Germans, it took the new Administration a full 10 months to make up its mind about arms control policy.

Faced with an increasingly vocal peace movement in Western Europe, the President seized the initiative with his support for the "zero option" — a NATO offer to cancel plans to modernize its

medium-range nuclear missile arsenal in Europe if Moscow dismantled all its SS20s aimed at Western Europe.

The state of the main East-West arms talks is as follows:

1. Strategic arms: Negotiations to limit the land-based missile and bomber forces of intercontinental range, as well as long-range missiles on board aircraft and submarines capable of striking American and Soviet territory, began in 1969 at the initiative of the United States.

President Reagan last November promised to resume strategic arms negotiations this year under the new acronym Start for Strategic Arms Reduction Talks. There is no sign of the talks opening before the summer at the earliest.

2. Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF). Under

the December, 1979, decision, NATO intends to deploy 572 cruise and Pershing 2 missiles from 1983 while seeking reductions in the 300 Soviet SS20s targeted at Europe.

Negotiations opened in Geneva on November 30 and have now gone into recess until the middle of May.

3. Comprehensive Test Ban Talks: Tripartite negotiations involving the United States, the Soviet Union and Britain began in 1977 to ban all nuclear tests and explosions. The last round of discussions took place in November, 1980, and have not resumed pending a policy review by the United States Administration.

4. Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions (MBFR): These talks which opened in Vienna in 1973 between NATO and Warsaw Pact countries, are designed to reach an agreement on conventional

force reductions in central Europe. They have made little progress.

5. Conference on Disarmament in Europe: At the recent Madrid meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), the West urged the Soviet Union to accept a French proposal for a conference on disarmament in Europe to negotiate confidence and security-building measures.

6. Committee on Disarmament: This 40-nation body which meets in Geneva, is working on four separate types of international agreement covering chemical weapons, radiological weapons, so-called negative security assurances — assurances to non-nuclear weapon states about the non-use of nuclear weapons — and a comprehensive programme of disarmament.

## Arrigo Levi: A Personal View

## Europe in grip of nuclear blackmail

The latest Soviet initiatives on theatre nuclear forces in Europe seem to indicate that the Russians are not really convinced that the 572 Pershing 2 and cruise missiles, which ought to be NATO's answer to their SS20s will ever come to be installed. This is the only reasonable conclusion to be drawn from their suggestion at the Geneva talks, that the two sides should aim at a new parity in 1990 of about 300 missiles each; and from President Brezhnev's so-called moratorium for the European region of the Soviet Union.

The moratorium, which would leave in their place the 300 SS20s already installed, while their number could keep increasing beyond the Urals (from where they could still reach large areas of Western Europe, and, any way, they are mobile weapons), is not a serious arms limitation proposal: just a new step in Moscow's psychological war against NATO's plans.

Obviously, Mr. Brezhnev considers Western public opinion to be more judicious from some positive reactions of German Social-Democrats, he is right. His moratorium is in line with the long-term Soviet disarmament proposal, which would allow the Russians to keep in 1990 their 300 invulnerable and extremely precise SS20s: these are ideal weapons for a formidable first strike against NATO's key targets.

On the Western side, there would be about 150 British and French sea-launched missiles (which are good only as national deterrents) and what would remain of NATO's present theatre nuclear forces. Presumably the 108 Pershing 1 missiles and about 250 aircraft. Soviet atomic superiority in the European theatre would be confirmed. Europe's democracies would be more than ever under nuclear blackmail.

Can the Russians really believe that these proposals will be taken seriously? This must be doubted. The more likely interpretation is that the Soviet leaders do not think that the Euro-missiles planned by NATO have a serious chance of ever being installed. Their initiatives, by strengthening Europe's anti-nuclear movements, aim to make the introduction of NATO's Pershing 2s and cruise missiles even less likely. Meanwhile, why should the Russians exchange existing missiles for paper ones?

If this interpretation of Soviet behaviour is correct, what can the West do in order to convince the Kremlin leaders that it is in their interest to negotiate seriously? They must be convinced — nothing less — to accept a real reduction of their present nuclear power in Europe, giving up the superiority they have achieved with many sacrifices.

It will not be easy to force the Soviet leaders to admit that their costly efforts were useless and represented, therefore, mistaken policies. They will not take such a step unless the West provides concrete proof that it is ready to make up the challenge and to face, if need be, a new arms race. It might be relatively easy for the Soviet leaders, even if the West goes ahead with its present policy to increase at the beginning even further and at a limited cost their present superiority which is Mr. Brezhnev's open threat.

However, if a new armaments race were to be started, it might be unbearable, in the long run for the Soviet economy, especially if there is a simultaneous reduction of Western credits and technology-exports to the Soviet block. So the key point is that the West must convince the Soviet leaders to take seriously Western disarmament intentions.

But only facts will induce the Brezhnev to abandon his incredulity about NATO's plans. After all, many Western observers are also convinced that it is by no means certain that the December 1979 decision will be implemented. Proof must be provided soon that the Western alliance is not in such a bad shape as the Western press and politicians keep saying.

NATO must regain credibility if we want the Russians to start thinking that they may not be able after all to maintain for ever the military superiority which they have gained in recent years. But in order to regain credibility some politically and economically hard military decisions will have to be confirmed.

Does the West want to force upon the Russians a serious negotiation on limiting nuclear and conventional weapons? If so, it will have to convince Mr. Brezhnev that the Western powers are not paper tigers, as he apparently believes today.

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## Central America mediation



Conrades in arms: Señor Cayetano Carpio (centre), head of the biggest Salvadorean guerrilla force, in Lebanon to meet Mr. Yassir Arafat, leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization. Señor Cayetano accused Israel of deep involvement in El Salvador's war.

## Nicaragua leaders try to ease tension

From Paul Elliman, Managua, March 17

Nicaragua's left-wing Government today appeared to have moved to ease the tension caused by the declaration of a state of emergency by suspending publication of a newspaper which called it a "state of siege".

A government statement said the newspaper *El Nuevo Diario* had spread confusion by publishing a report which "does not correspond to reality".

Nevertheless, a decree issued on Monday night suspending most civil rights here remained in force, with the ruling Sandinista movement maintaining a noisy propaganda campaign against the United States.

The nervousness of the revolutionary Government has been increased by a recent report in Washington, apparently leaked by the Administration, that President Reagan has authorized \$90m (£49m) to finance covert actions involving the Central Intelligence Agency to overthrow the Sandinista regime.

Political sources here said that the Sandinistas feared that they were about to be caught between a hammer and an anvil over events in El Salvador.

The Nicaraguans fear that as the Salvadorean guerrillas step up their offensive designed to disrupt the March Command said today. One Honduran sailor and an unknown number of crewmen on the other boat were wounded in the shooting.

— Reuters.

## Mexico to sound out Cuba

Mexico City, March 17. — Mexico will take its peace plan for Central America a step further with approaches to Cuba and left-wing Nicaragua, officials said here today.

A weekend meeting between Señor Jorge Castañeda, the Foreign Minister, and Mr. Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, left the Mexican Government cautiously optimistic about eventually ending the political upheavals in the region.

The meeting, the second in a week, ended with both parties agreeing that the peace plan — primarily aimed at ending the civil war in El Salvador — formed a working framework for further discussions.

Mexico is on friendly terms with Cuba and Nicaragua, and Señor Castañeda said he would present their governments with a progress report on his talks with Mr. Haig in the next week or so.

It is known that President Lopez Portillo of Mexico hopes to push all sides towards constructive talks to replace the threats and counter-threats of recent months.

San Salvador: A warning from left-wing guerrillas of a general uprising in El Salvador next week was followed by attacks in three suburbs in and around the capital last night. It was the second successive day of guerrilla activity close to San Salvador and was seen by the authorities as part of a campaign to disrupt constituent assembly elections set for March 28.

Yesterday's fighting in the suburbs of Mejicanos, Cuicatancingo and Ciudad Delgado was less heavy than on Monday. Only small arms fire was heard and the guerrillas were repulsed by security forces after about an hour.

Guerrillas' radio said that the country should prepare for a general uprising on the second anniversary next week of the murder of Archbishop Oscar Arnaz Romero. The radio told people to stock up on food and medicines to help guerrilla forces "when the decisive moment comes".

Tegucigalpa: A Honduran Navy patrol boat fought a gun battle with a vessel belonging into Honduran territorial waters from Nicaragua yesterday. The Navy Command said today. One Honduran sailor and an unknown number of crewmen on the other boat were wounded in the shooting.

— Reuters.



IF YOU WERE LOOKING FOR THE RICHEST MARKET IN SOUTH AFRICA, WHICH WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

Any British investor with an out-of-date view of South Africa could be missing a great deal.

The fact is that the consumer spending power of Black South Africans is catching up rapidly with that of the Whites. And before long there's no doubt Black spending power will have pulled ahead.

This is in line with South Africa's commitment to stability and prosperity for all her peoples.

For example, the Corporation for Economic Development assists Black South Africans in establishing

businesses. And the Bureau for Training helps to equip them with the necessary skills. (This policy has already created almost 100,000 new jobs).

So it isn't surprising to learn that Black spending is estimated to reach at least £5,000-million within 2 years.

However, the more astute investor will have realised that the best answer to the question 'Which market would you choose?' isn't 'Black' or 'White'.

It's the spending power of both Black and White South Africans that matters most.

Further information can be obtained from The Director of Information, South African Embassy, South Africa House, London WC2N 6DP.



## Cooke's tours

### Masterpieces

A Decade of Classics on British Television  
By Alistair Cooke  
(The Bodley Head, £14.95)

To excel at presentation, or "hosting", is to possess one of the cardinal virtues of American politics and entertainment. The man or woman who sells you something is almost as important as the product you might wish to buy: conspicuous consumption, like dieting, is a pleasure and a duty shared. One recent TV documentary on the anthropology of the anthropologist, "The Anthropologist", was promoted less on its quality and content than on the fact that it was more than a fairly well-known movie star, who happened to share the background of the girls in the film but had nothing useful to add to the subject, presented it all OK, more real, FDR was the host of hosts and he got elected four times.

American viewers are not undiscriminating: they do not buy a *Sense and Sensibility* by Spino Agnew nor Testament of Youth from Alexander Haig, but they love to receive programmes like Anglia's *Survival* from Peter Niven because, although obviously talented and witty men of the world, they do not exalt their intelligence too openly and are good to have in the home. American viewers will buy virtually anything at all, including his personal history of themselves, from Alfred Alistair Cooke. We too, of course, though I would not be too sure about Masterpieces. Cooke is presented, host and master of ceremonies, but none and he has been doing the job in the higher reaches of American TV since The Ford Foundation's Omnibus started in 1952.

By 1970, if the best of BBC television drama was to bypass the jealousy and indifference of the American networks, it required presentation in a seductive package: a series title that would brook no quibbling and just about stretch from *Judith* to *Obscure* to *Danger* to *U.S.*; an enlightened channel and a generous sponsor; above all, it needed Alistair Cooke. Masterpiece Theatre took care of the first (what was the point of deserting the networks unless you were getting a certificated masterpiece?); the Public Broadcasting System of America and the National Endowment for the Arts took care of the second and third. Mr Cooke was — with some difficulty, he tells us — finally persuaded to host. They began in 1971 with *The First Churchills*, one of the dullest and most over-

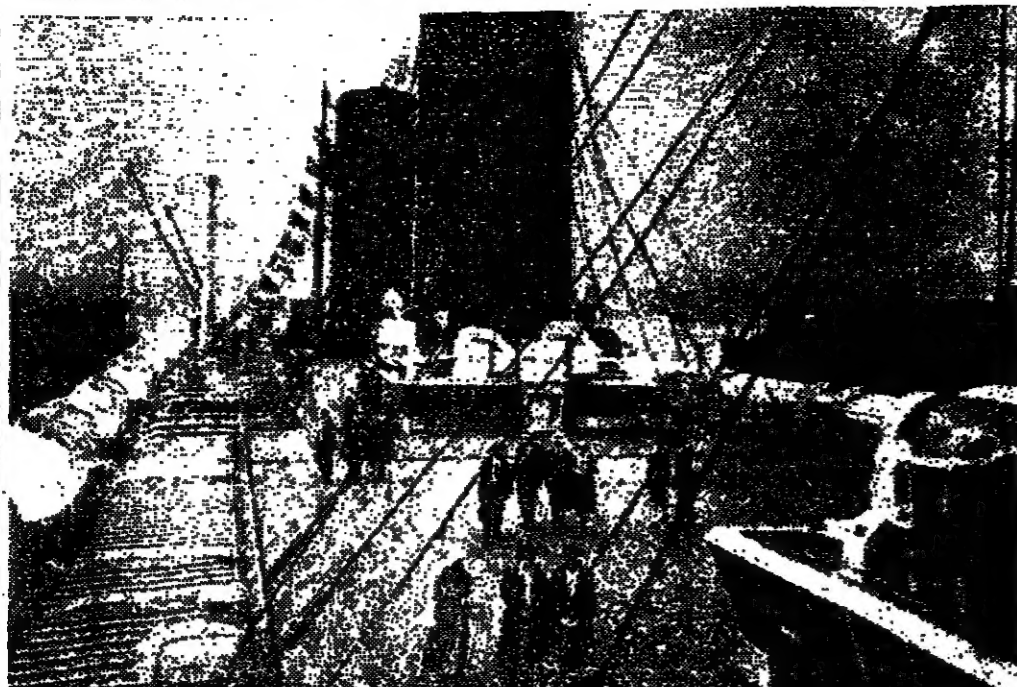
the grace to admit, nearly sank Masterpiece Theatre at the start. *The Six Wives of Henry VIII* and *Elizabeth R* saved the ship and *Upstairs, Downstairs* established the point and popularity of the enterprise beyond doubt. But not even they would have got very far without the package of PBS, Mobil and Mr Cooke, and if Masterpiece Theatre meant that a few American innocents might place *Poldark* in the same section of their cultural memory as *Anna Karenina* or, more understandably, confuse *Notorious Woman* with *Concubine*, tough. Words like *Masterpiece* and *major and classic* have long since been emasculated in the book trade and the movies, so why should TV be more sensitive?

Masterpiece itself, on the other hand, is the package of the package, and a very peculiar book indeed. Bound to look as Briddish as possible with a gold and silver spine and large white lettering on Wedgwood Blue, it is perhaps, with the artefacts shipped home from Thomas Goode and Co in South Audley Street it is the product of VNU Books International, New York, not, or perhaps not, The Bodley Head. It is never made clear whether the 32 brief essays are the texts of the screen chats themselves, or whether Mr Cooke is considering the first decade of the series in retrospect for viewers who also like to read. The result crashes very unclassily between all stools.

The best essays — on Dürer, Coppard and Bates, Schnitzler, Henry James — show a critical mind at work and are tantalisingly short. The marriage between pictures and text are these: the picture used on screen has not survived the transfer to the page. However scrupulous and sobering Cooke tries to be — he is careful to indicate truths minimized by the plays, such as the political genius of Augustus the younger of Henry VIII and the enlightenment of Dr Arnold, and he invokes the aid of Harold Nicolson to cut the Edwards icy down to size.

There is *Lillie*, yet no *Jennie*, and more regrettably, no *Edward VII*, by far the best of the series, with Timothy West as the hero and Annette Crosbie as the most outrageously winning and violent Queen Victoria of them all. Did PBS reject them? The package, offering blurred justice both to the television and to the talents of the master of ceremonies in charge, does not tell.

Michael Ratcliffe



Sailing time 1927. The USS Intrepid, "boulevard of the Atlantic", about to sail from New York for the first time: from Beau Vovatz. Life Aboard the Last Great Ships, by John Malcolm Brinnin. (Thames & Hudson, £28). Note the dropped waistlines and the bobbed hair.

## Ringmaster of the literati

Sextet  
By John Malcolm Brinnin  
(André Deutsch, £7.95)

Literary gossip has had a long and largely undisputed history, ever since Lord Byron's *Memoirs* were ceremoniously burnt in the fireplace at Albemarle Street. The genre has flourished especially in America, recent examples being *Great Tom* (of T. S. Eliot) by T. S. Matthews (1974), and *Remembering Poets* (of Pound, Frost et al) by Donald Hall (1980). John Malcolm Brinnin, one-time Professor of English at Boston, a peppy contributor to the *New Yorker*, and himself a poet whose last collection was entitled *Skin Diving in the Virgins* (1970), is no unpractised exponent of the art whose essence seems to flutter somewhere between biography, libel, and insinuation.

As Director of the lively Poetry Center, New York, between 1945-1956, Brinnin became the ringmaster and confidant of a number of performing poets; his most celebrated catch being poor Dylan Thomas in the last stages of his vatic alcoholism. The result was *Dylan Thomas in America* (1956), a horrible and fascinating work, exquisitely written and observed, but labouring under some ghastly shadow of emotional betrayal.

Brinnin is a polished writer, feline in phraseology, socially sensitive, and surprisingly lacking in malice. He seems instantly liked by all

he meets. His *Sextet* — which has not much sex, and a lot of Tete-a-tete — consists of an odd assortment of party: Truman Capote, Carter-Bresson, Elizabeth Bowen, Edith Sitwell, Alice B. Toklas, and T. S. Eliot. Each is caught in a series of more or less intimate snapshots, as Brinnin is invited to their houses for tea, supper, or weekends; or escorts them on the celebrity circuit in New York. He peers into the bedrooms, puts the poodles, sips the Cutty Sark, fixes the taxis, and listens like a lynx to the chatter and jokes and tears.

He had a brilliant eye for dress and *deshabille*, room decoration, drink consumption, give-away gestures, and small confessions. The prose pearly of the *New Yorker* is constantly in evidence: "Alice B. Toklas then proceeded to obliterate all my preconceptions. Neither mousy, murmurous, dove-like, or supernumerary, she was tough, spirited, quick-witted, biting."

The most solid of the six portraits is that of the young Brinnin, a biography in miniature, which occupies over a third of the entire book. It presents an extraordinary, self-publicizing, Firkankian figure on the expatriate round of Venice, Taormina, and Portofino, trading carny repartee about Noel Coward, Evelyn Waugh, Cecil Beaton, and Andre Gide. (The name dropping is *de rigueur* throughout). Brinnin was obviously genuinely close to Capote, and it is therefore all the more telling to realize

that we are left with no real sense of how this epicene butterfly could ever have written *In Cold Blood*. The style hides the man.

But the most interesting encounter is that with the French photographer Bresson. In a way this is the joker in the pack. Brinnin is weigled into an exhausting three-month coast-to-coast tour with Bresson, supposedly to write the prose commentary to accompany a photographic study of "the real America." We'd driven more than sixteen thousand miles, worn out eleven tires, four windshield wipers, three batteries, and each other. They collect star names like sea-shells: Henry Miller, Faulkner, Stravinsky, Frieda Lawrence, Huxley. Yet in the end Bresson turns the tables on Brinnin, ruthlessly exploiting him, treating him like a convenient camera-stand and chauffeur, knocking him down in the street, nearly killing him on a freeway, and jettisoning his "commentary" without a qualm the bitter bit, and the Old World effortlessly outwitting the New.

Brinnin records all this with humour, frankness, and sly humility, which finally was its own kind of pyrrhic victory. In fact it strikes one as a small masterpiece of the gossip's art, which really does tell us something quite profound about the ruthlessness of the creative process. Henry James would surely have awarded him a little laurel.

Richard Holmes

## Feminist Bard

Shakespeare's Division of Experience  
By Marilyn French  
(Cape, £12.50)

The feminist approach to the plays of William Shakespeare is a publishing event which we have been expecting, even if we have not been exactly crying out for it. The question, now it's happened and the inevitable 341-page volume, including notes and a bibliography, has hit the nation's bookshops, or at least those where Alternative Women are encouraged, hinges less on whether such an approach is really feasible. Shakespeare has, after all, been proved good for almost anything, from the cosmic to the scatological interpretation: whole books have been written about his use of bawdy but on a plain assessment of just how far it goes. Granted one can do it; but is it any use?

The book is American. Terribly American, as my mother would have put it. It is written by Marilyn French, author of *The Woman's Room* and *The Blooded Heart* (a novel, no relation to that long-lost sub-Shakespearean incest play). It argues that Shakespeare should be interpreted in the light of the "gender principle" of which more later. First signs of those of us bred up on Dr Tillyard — the Spock generation of Eng. Lit. undergraduates — the initial concept seems, er, well, a little suspect, a bit fuzzy at the edges. Ms French has got through Ms French, a long read but a rewarding one, with growing fascination, let me, tired but admiring, say my view has wholly changed.

The theory of the book comes from the not uncommon notion of dividing life's experience into masculine and feminine. Certain qualities have come to be considered masculine: qualities like strength, determination, and bravery. Others have come to be categorized feminine: sympathy, mercy, intuition. The masculine qualities have been more highly valued, in Shakespeare's society and, indeed, in ours as well.

The large, intriguing argument which Ms French puts forward, very learnedly and cogently, is that William Shakespeare, at the start of his career, accepted these constrictions, the frame of mind implied by what she calls "the gender principle": when he began to write, he had profound respect for "masculine" qualities and profound suspicion of "feminine" ones. But relatively quickly, by the time he reached *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, it is obvious he had undergone a volte-face

and had come much closer to admiring "femininity". By the end of his career, she maintains, he was deploring, and fearing, the power and the capriciousness of the masculine principle and idealizing certain aspects of the feminine.

The way she works it out, Shakespeare's tragedies are masculine, steady in exposition, linear in their construction, and his comedies more feminine, more volatile, more capricious, more brilliant in language, more eccentric in their plan. His places can be thought of as masculine or feminine: the Venice of the Merchant is a male place, tough and mercenary, but Belmont, restful, hazy, is altogether feminine. His people, men and women, on the whole are poles apart: the Petrarchians and Benedicks, joke figures of machismo, the Proteuses, Posthumuses, Orlandos, Bassanios, waited for and rescued, resurrected and transfigured by the Julias and Imogens, the Rosalinds and Portias, Shakespeare's symbols of chaste constancy, his types of ideal woman. The fact that they are dressed as men is not just accidental.

Shakespeare never quite got over his sheer fear of sexuality, his panic-stricken vision of woman both as virgin and as whore. Yet he understood, and understood more fully and indeed, it seems, more painfully as he grew older, that there had to be a fusion, there had to be a balance between the dual values of masculine and feminine. As Ms French clearly argues, he understood the dangers of undervaluing "the fluid, insubstantial and emotional dimensions of experience." Where this happens — as in, say *Macbeth* — there is disaster. In some of his plays, the plots are often called the Problem Plays, Shakespeare comes his closest to achieving a full synthesis.

In Britain, a country in which, amazingly, we sit ourselves down to take *Macbeth* for *Olel — Macbeth!* a play which is surely quite impossible to comprehend at all below the age of 37 — it is easy to assume that we know our Shakespeare backwards. To jolt us out of our complacency, remind us that Shakespeare is indeed one of life's most endless pleasures, it needs a production of a new and sudden brilliance, like Peter Brook's now legendary *Midsummer Night's Dream*; a performance of a quite surprising rightness and intensity, say Vanessa Redgrave's *Rosalind*, Jonathan Pryce's *Hamlet*, or a commentary of fresh and startling insight, related to the way we see our own lives. This is one of these.

Fiona MacCarthy

## Cleopatra of water cities revisited

Venice  
The most triumphant city  
By George Bull  
(Michael Joseph, £7.95)

No one could ever be boring about Venice, city of infinite variety. George Bull has concocted a rich plum-pudding of a book, stuffed with all the familiar anecdotes, and some that are new to me. I like the one about the Englishman Corvay in 1608, rescued from an angry dispute with a rabbit by the British "Ambassador's" secretary "who happened to be passing in his gondola". How to beat a retreat in style! There are marvellous quotations, ranging from the Ostragoth Cassiodorus to Proust, and Thomas Mann, and glimpses of every notable writer to Venice, over the past eight hundred years. Erasmus complained about the food but discovered the *Pervigilium Veneris*, Milton acquired a Monteverdi score; only Sir Philip Sidney and Ralph Waldo Emerson remained immune to the charm of this most triumphant city" (Philippe de Comynes, 1494).

But plum-puddings can lie heavy. Mr Bull appears to have read everything ever written about Venice, and his prose, as he says of Goethe's "dense with allusion". He covers Venice's history, music and art with such dedicated thoroughness that he obscures its raffish gaiety. He would be a dull dog at the carnival. He omits J. G. Links's gem of a guide from his bibliography; can it have been too frivolous for him? And he has been ill-served by his publishers; there is no index, and although the jacket is exquisite, the picture editor could win a prize for the sheer inanity of his captions. Every time a new name appears in the text, up pops a postage-stamp portrait for easy identification, but you will need to turn to the list of illustrations at the front to find out anything about the picture itself. This is a most estimable book, but I miss the glitter of winter sunshine on St Mark's and the swirl of mist on the lagoon. Back to Morris for Atmosphere and Links for Pleasure.

Isabel Raphael

## Inside the Treasury: pellets for pigeons...

Getting and Spending  
By Leo Pliatzky  
(Blackwell, £12)

Recently Joel Barnett, who was Chief Secretary in the last Labour Government, published a book (*Inside the Treasury*) which was more candid about his political colleagues and gave more insights into the workings of Whitehall than any other since the war, including *The Crossman Diaries*. Sir Leo Pliatzky has now written what amounts to a companion volume which, while less candid about politicians is even more revealing about the way the Treasury actually acts.

For years now the Treasury has had a bad press; in Keynes's time because it harboured the "Treasury view" — in shorthand, the view was that Keynes was wrong, which he indeed

sometimes was — and since then because it has thwarted the apparent wishes of radical governments whether Conservative or Labour. No department can be better than its political head. The present highly capable Chancellor has used the Treasury well; the chaotic days of 1967 showed how not to use it. The Treasury's reputation depends fundamentally on the calibre of the Chancellor and his standing with the Prime Minister, as Lord Thorneycroft's resignation showed.

Sir Leo gives a fascinating account of the evolution of the control of public expenditure, astringently autobiographical service for its under-35s was exemplified in his case by work in the Ministry of Food, controlling rations for pet pigeons and rabbits — such are the realities of a siege economy — and he only emerged into interesting

work in 1959 when he was 40. But even his sharp observation of the incoherent and arbitrary control of expenditure decisions which account in part at least for the failure of Britain to emerge as powerfully as France and Germany in the 1950s.

Subsequently Sir Leo played a big part in evolving the public expenditure system that Joel Barnett managed to fluster a year after the election trying to exert control of expenditure. Much of this has now been undone, partly by Sir Leo, who says that what went wrong was not the medium-term plans, but the shift of emphasis from departments arguing for more resources to the Treasury arguing for fewer — a process vividly described by Mr Barnett. Two things stand out. One is the fatuity of almost all long-term assumptions (Crossland saying, for example, in the 1950s that the economy problem was solved); and the other is the difficulty of controlling public expenditure at all, making the idea of centralized planning in reality a recipe for brilliant young men spending their formative years allocating pellets to racing pigeons; and by making fairly inflex-

ible medium-term plans, alterations became difficult. (This explains why Mrs Thatcher's year after the election trying to exert control of expenditure.) Much of this has now been undone, partly by Sir Leo, who says that what went wrong was not the medium-term plans, but the shift of emphasis from departments arguing for more resources to the Treasury arguing for fewer — a process vividly described by Mr Barnett. Two things stand out. One is the fatuity of almost all long-term assumptions (Crossland saying, for example, in the 1950s that the economy problem was solved); and the other is the difficulty of controlling public expenditure at all, making the idea of centralized planning in reality a recipe for brilliant young men spending their formative years allocating pellets to racing pigeons; and by making fairly inflex-

John Vaizey

## Quangophobia: horses for Caligula

Quangos in Britain  
Government and the Net-works of Public Policy-Making  
Edited by Anthony Barber  
(Macmillan, £20)

When, after a career of relative anonymity, I carried out a one-man review of so-called quangos for the Prime Minister in the latter part of 1979, I was struck by the publicity which it attracted and the strength of feeling about the subject. Quangos — or non-departmental public bodies, as I more prosaically called them in my report — are now, I think, rather less newsworthy, and far two reasons.

First, quangophobia was one aspect of a wider reaction against big government. Today, though the drive to push back the frontiers of the state is by no means spent, with the slump

sentiment has moved back somewhat towards government intervention and the use of chosen instruments.

Second, though bodies set up at arm's length from government create special problems of accountability, and there was a good deal of worry about the spread of under-the-counter bureaucracy, the 1979 review and the follow-up action since then have gone quite a long way to codify the regime for quangos and remove the mystery about them, as well as reducing or restricting their number. The role of the Comptroller and Auditor General in this field is now better recognised, though there is still resistance in Whitehall to giving him access to areas regarded as sacrosanct. The Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (the Ombudsman) is likely to recommend that he should extend his

role into the quango field; I hope that this will happen.

However, since quangos are here to stay, and since there is clearly a school of thought that this pragmatic approach is not sufficient to clarify their role in the complex "network of policy-making", I should think that the contributors to *Quangos in Britain* are entitled to their claim that there is room for a serious study of the subject — for the serious student. The book has been produced from a set of papers prepared for an academic conference in September 1979. There was, apparently, just time in the final editing to take some limited notice of my report; since then it has taken two years to get the book into print. The conference method of giving birth to a book, in place of the creative process in individual authorship, appears to be a fairly widespread academic technique. The drawback of this

labour-saving device is that the parts are liable to be uneven in style and not always to fit together very neatly.

I can pick out only one contribution for comment, a well-written chapter by Anne Davies on patronage. All Quangos appointments — most of them, incidentally, unpaid — are in the gift of Ministers. As Anne Davies says, my report "briefly described but did not review this aspect". Reasonably though she herself aims the case for some restriction on the use of this power, I do not expect the reformers to get much joy. And though we are likely to see one or two rather odd appointments under any government, does the United States, where the public appoints its really manage to avoid the occasional Caligula's horse?

Leo Pliatzky

## Crime

The False Inspector Dew  
By Peter Lovesey  
(Macmillan, £6.95)

A funny thing happened to me on the way to the typewriter. I had read about a month ago a book I was looking forward to writing

about. I had revelled in its marvellously evocative prose, remembered. But now I find I cannot read a single thing about it. Well-written, even beautifully, though it was, it lacked charge. Yet Lovesey's newest, which I read a day or two before it was written though it is in the plainest of plain styles, has characters no more than decently depth-etched, leaves now in my mind a fine, clear image.

The first residual impression I have is of the liner

Mauretania in the year 1921 plunging across the Atlantic with its tinny, Bridge-playing, deck-games-participating, amateur variety concert attending passengers. I see them down to such touches as Essence of Stepanofitis perfume. Lovesey has researched his setting not merely just enough to have plenty of local colour to push in when there's some excuse, but so thoroughly that he had at his fingertips a dozen facts to choose from at any instant. Secret No. 1 of the charge that powers his book.

But it is not enough to describe a setting, however strong your resources. You need a story to take your readers along, and if you have not got at your command (and know it) that God-given gift for bringing the imaginary to vibrant life which allows an uneventful Simenon to grip like the very devil, you need more than an and-then-and-then story. So Lovesey has devised a series of turn-around surprises (who's murdered whom on this racing liner, who's the detective even?) and with each turn you get a sudden whole new view of events that fires your curiosity.

The devising was plainly as much honest hard work as the research. Secret No. 2. And the combined result is the sort of book that ought to be a bestseller, and deserves to be.

The Keys of Death, by George Sims (Macmillan, £5.95). Sims in top form in hunt-the-orzy story with splendid London backdrop.

An intuitive, flickering, magical world absorbs you as you read.

Snare in the Dark, by Frank Parrish (Constable, £6.95). Most welcome third appearance of Dan Mallor, policeman in rather detective affair, centering on geriatric nursing-home. Country ways, fascinatingly described, win out.

Shadows of Shadows, by Ted Alibury (Granada, £7.95). Fiction mixed (uncomfortable bedfellow) with facts about spy George Blake and a likely supposition about his fate. But the imagined defector reveals more.

Dealer's Wheels, by Steve Wilson (Michael Joseph, £5.95). Mightily ambitious thriller tackles, with documentary undertow, our nuclear dilemma. At a wham-bam pace and here, there and everywhere with instant storytelling.

Fair Game, by Gerald Hammond (Macmillan, £5.95). Mystery of the millionaire's demise, only solvable through gun lore (happily Scots gunsmith hero is in fine fettle, aided by the big hello. Persuasive, what with one thing and another, this week's fiction makes my blood pressure jump around more than somewhat, and maybe causes me to pop off very unexpectedly, two out of three propositions being such as few honest citizens would care to have any part of, unless they have no brains whatever, or wish to read them. But Miss Janice Elliott is a strictly legitimate scribe at all times, as many citizens

will tell you without being told. Be sure and be at the track this day to put the eye on *The Country of Her Dreams*.

Now Miss Janet Hobhouse is credited with "a marvellous ability to portray love's wicked conundrums", and Miss Nancy Thayer with "a real stuff of life", and it is agreed by one and all that novels about the ambiguity of the female situation, and the terrible time guys give to dolls, and this and that, are make many citizens bust out crying. But I wish to say that you will be disappointed quite some, there being no conundrums, love, or even wickedness to be seen in *Nellie Without Hugo*, or precious little life, or even stuff, in *Three Women at the Water's Edge*.

Both these American squawks about marriage are choked with mothers and sisters: some belonging to nervous Nellie, having a jittery affair with a former lover while husband Hugo is in Africa on business; others to dreary Daisy, deserted at the water's edge — or somewhere — by an ever-loving on the lam for slimmer dolls with no tire-some little children.

Furthermore, both feature terrible writing and a lamentable absence of action, unless you wish to count dim dolls drifting around being self-absorbed as action; or writing like

And now, protected only by the elegant tale that separated them, she had to endure all coming back to her, sharply, while she forced back the munnery of a cornered virgin and connived at

Delegates from a babel of

the image of the carefree and willing reunion as writing of marvellous ability; which you do not. Now I do not approve of guys using false pretences as dolls, except, of course, when nothing else will do. But characters like these and novels like these are such as anybody who is not a hundred per cent sucker would positively hide in Africa, or rush headlong into the water, to get away from.

It is plain to be seen that Miss Elliott is no phonous bolonous proposition like these. Her novels are among the best and most subtle around: quiet, unforced stories of surprise; deceptively easy-going; funny and sad. Furthermore, she speaks English, so you will not have to waste time with the sign language.

Her new novel sharpens into ridiculous, recognizable reality a central preoccupation in these times, which is the Balance of Terror when they are not in their right minds. Plot, characterizations, and action, behaviour and response, encapsulate precarious global and personal civilizational edges of dread, violence and squalor more horrible for being absurd. Mary Lamb, accompanying her husband Nicholas abroad to a Congress of European Arts at a rickety resort on the Eastern Adriatic, has been to *The Country of Her Dreams* many times. This visit is different from those made in restless sleep at home.

Call it sad, call it funny, but it's better than even money that you will glance twice, sideways, into this neatly bevelled little mirror of humanity's guilty soul. His focus is on the world, not on an international society.

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nations wrangle over which of Europe's most majestic achievements in the arts shall be selected for sealed-off lead-lined safety, for the benefit of such posterity as might survive nuclear Armageddon. Gently parodied Arts Council types — dragged by a Dame, nannied by Nicholas — speak for England with cultivated, prickly determination. The weather is electrically hot.

"We spend so much time pretending our affairs are important. It's funny how things get serious without any help at all." Day after day inside the English Tea Room, where Nicholas and members of the Modern Society Sub-committee are held hostage, hi-jacked at random by alien fanatics — and outside, where fear holds Mary hostage in reaction no less alien — is documented in detail: spiritual as well as physical exposure. "Things like this don't happen to people like us. Now I wonder is it in us?" In Miss Elliott's hands, parody and ridicule glide into existential absurdity on an international scale.

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The controversial chief constable crusading against political control

# Anderton: evangelist with an accordion

In the past four years James Anderton has become a particularly public policeman. For someone in such a normally secretive, even taciturn, profession he has carved out for himself a fearsome reputation for controversy.

Even a Church of England minister saw fit to burlesque him and point out tartly: "Please spare us any more of your sermons. If you will promise not to preach to us I will try not to be a part-time policeman". The House of Lords heard him described as that unspeakable chief constable, but in the Commons he had been called a "clarion voice of sanity".

In fact Cyril James Anderton, the 49-year-old Chief Constable of the Greater Manchester Police, who has commanded the biggest police force on Britain outside London for the past five years, does not appear to mind what people say about him or his opinions. For what he is, that they notice them.

"There are serious attempts now being made," he says firmly, "to undermine the independence, the impartiality and the authority of the British police service. I honestly believe we are now witnessing the domination of the police service as a necessary prerequisite of the creation in this country of a society based on Marxist/Communist principles."

"The current concern over policing being expressed by certain political factions has got precious little to do with better community participation in police affairs or the improvement of democracy — rather it is the first conscious step manifesting itself towards the political control of the police, without which the dream of a totalitarian, one-party state in this country cannot be realized."

Anderton is shrewd enough to admit that no chief constable in the 1980s can avoid being involved in politics, though he describes them as "poison with a small p". In the six years since he became the force's chief constable in England and Wales at 44 (responsible for the Greater Manchester area of more than 500 square miles) he has acted in ways his critics see as political with a capital P.

In 1977, the year after he took over, Anderton launched 286 vice squad raids in Manchester in a drive to clear the city's streets of pornography and prostitution. In the process, Manchester force collected 160,000 separate books, films and magazines and in every obscure publication case brought to court there was a conviction. In 1976 there had been just five raids.

At the same time Anderton launched campaigns against the city's gay clubs, and indeed all forms of after hours or illegal drinking, and saw the convictions for drunkenness fall by 10 per cent. His containment of the National Front marches in 1978, where he deployed large numbers of officers and directed them himself, preventing the large scale disorder seen in Lewisham and Ladywood, won him a national reputation. Indeed, in the riots in Moss Side in Manchester last July he only cracked down strongly after leaving the local community leaders 24 hours to try to sort matters out themselves, and won a glowing commendation from the independent tribunal set up to investigate.

Many of his campaigns are described by his critics as "attempts to limit personal freedoms", a charge he most strenuously denies, but they are undeniably in tune with the Britain of Margaret Thatcher.

That is of no small significance because within two years — almost certainly before the next General Election — the Home Secretary may have to choose the next Chief Constable, the most important policeman in the land. James Anderton is a contender for the post.

"Yes I would like to go to the Met," Anderton says. "It is a tremendous challenge and regarded as the pinnacle of any career in the public service."

But he is also aware that his very publicly-expressed views could count decisively against him. "I think I may have made myself a little too controversial to be picked," he says carefully.

"But I'm not going to keep quiet for my own private and personal gain," he adds quickly. "If, in fact, my strength of character, my forthrightness, resulted in the end of my police career, then provided I am satisfied that what I have done I believe to be right then so be it. I am not going purposely to set out on a course to curry favour and win friends to satisfy my own personal ambitions."

In fact it may be the self-righteous tone of that justification rather than the political controversy caused by his public statements that may count most against his hopes for a promotion to London. At least one fellow chief constable says of him, "he's the only bobby I've ever met who seems convinced he's got a direct line to God".

Born in Wigan, the son of a colliery worker, on Empire Day 1932, Anderton has been a convinced Christian throughout his life. His mother took to extra sewing in the evenings to eke out the family's income.

"My background could be said to have been underprivileged," he said not long ago, "but I wouldn't have changed it in any way. I knew the warmth of a God-fearing family". By the age of 18 he had joined the Royal Military Police, for in spite of winning a scholarship to



James Anderton: It's not a job, it's a calling

Wigan Grammar School, he had already decided that he wanted to be a policeman rather than go to university. In 1953 he became a constable in Manchester. Another constable on the beat with him then remembers the station sergeant announcing even before Anderton arrived, "We've got a real good'un coming from the college next week". His reputation has preceded him ever since.

As Anderton reached the beat at 21, the officer he has most often been compared to in recent times, Sir Robert Mark, was just leaving as a chief superintendent. Their paths have followed remarkably similar paths ever since. Mark left Manchester to become Chief Constable of Leicestershire, and Anderton followed to be Assistant and then Deputy Chief there.

Anderton has used Mark's philosophy of conducting police business as openly as possible, and stating the police view in any public debate, with some vigour.

His staunchest supporters say Anderton can make this philosophy work because he has an instinct for the views

of the silent majority about what they expect from the police. Certainly he takes the considerable pride in the flood of letters of support he received from the public when he cracked down on Manchester's porno shops. "Most people said it was long overdue. But people believe I came in like a knight in shining armour, wielding my sword of righteousness on behalf of all good people. That wasn't true. I responded in a sensible way to public complaint and about them. I acted within the law in a careful and deliberate way."

Never the less the tone of righteous indignation that he brings to his task is a constable irritates some of his fellow chief constables, and has annoyed at least one significant member of the present Cabinet.

Indeed, his tendency to deliver lectures to those he meets has brought him the suspicion of the National Council for Civil Liberties. Last year its general secretary, Patricia Hewitt, visited Anderton in his specially secure "command suite" on the top floor of Manchester Police headquarters to discuss his programme and his use of special task forces. "As soon as we started asking questions instead of just listening, he lost his temper," Miss Hewitt recalls. "He went red in the face and started shouting at us. It was extraordinary behaviour."

Anderton's stock was not hurt by the report of the independent tribunal set up to inquire into the riots in Manchester's Moss Side in July, which was chaired by Benet Hytner QC.

It went on: "Mr Anderton is regarded by all who gave evidence to us as a man who is fair, honest, and free of racial prejudice. This view of him was expressed by people of all shades of political opinion (including the extreme left and of all races)."

So this 5ft 11in tall man, whose black hair, scraped back, and beard, and matching moustache make him look rather like a cheerful member of a barber's shop quartet, takes some solace from this support. But he does not intend to rest on it. He is still campaigning energetically in

1979 he attended 197 public functions and gave 100 speeches) and is running up the 11 flights of stairs from his basement garage at police headquarters every day to help him do it.

There are the small vanities. He is keen to keep his weight down to what he believes is his optimum 14 stone, and is considering taking up weight training again to do it.

There is a bit of do-it-yourself in his suburban home, and some walking in the Lake District with his daughter when he can get away. (His only child, she is studying the law.) His wife Joan brings him breakfast in bed at 7 o'clock most mornings. It is a humdrum rather than an opulent life.

So what exactly makes James Anderton run? His critics maintain it is nothing more than untrammelled ambition, coated with evangelical fervour, and his friends point out he is the opposite of a calculating man.

Perhaps his missionary qualities have been overemphasized. He has not done any law-breaking in more than a year, and as one of his senior officers puts it, "he isn't as tub thumping as people say he is, it's just the way he talks".

Certainly he deals generously with officers in his force who have personal problems, but he is ruthless with dishonesty. He is proud to have thrown out proportionately more dishonest policemen in his time in Manchester than Sir Robert Mark purged from the Met in London at the height of his drive against corruption.

A defective himself for less than two years, he is not fond of the grey world where policeman and criminal exist side by side. Perhaps that is part of the key to his character.

And James Anderton is an accordionist. He was chairman of the governing council of the British College of Accordionists until 1977, and somehow it is impossible to imagine any member of the "The Squad" pumping away at a squeeze box in his day and age. Anderton is not an ambitious man's instrument, no matter where they might like to end up.

Geoffrey Wansell  
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pressure groups was that it was a consequence of police harassment with some arguing that the answer must be, in a multicultural society, the legalization of cannabis.

Last weekend we had Mrs Shirley Williams saying that she and the SDP are considering legalizing or decriminalizing cannabis on the grounds that the present law creates policing problems with the black communities.

So we are exhorted to suppress facts on crime, tailor our policing methods, compose our juries and even change our drug laws in the hope of buying peace.

It would not work. A nation is one community, under one law, or it is nothing to anyone's advantage. In the long run, the majority would accept the veto of a minority in such matters.

What the police figures do is to place a responsibility firmly on the so-called ethnic communities to show, by their cooperation, in spirit as well as in form, the law of the nation they have come to join.

An article on this page yesterday did not make clear that an award of damages against Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, to the mother of one of his victims was an example of compensation ordered by a court, not of mediation or arbitration.

His victims were criticized for their high-handed attitude more often than general practitioners. Only 43 per cent of women said their hospital doctors were helpful, and sympathetic whereas 69 per cent said their GPs were helpful.

The distress that can be caused when doctors do not explain fully what they want to do is described by Angela, aged 19, who had to be induced.

"I wasn't given any reason why I was to be induced. The

ban on natural childbirth at the Royal Free Hospital in north London has provoked a vociferous protest from militant mothers around the country, which is to culminate in a mass rally outside the hospital in April.

The book, which results from a survey of 6,000 viewers of BBC Television's programme *That's Life*, does not take sides in the natural versus "high technology" controversy but comes down firmly in favour of women being allowed a choice.

It does not show that women are having inductions, pain-killing drugs and foetal heart monitors forced on them against their will but it does show that many of them would have liked more information about what was being done, or offered to them, and greater respect for their views.

It will stir up still further the troubled waters at the Royal Free by showing that almost two-thirds of the women did not feel they had reasonable freedom of choice about the position in which they had to give birth — the very issue on which the controversy at the Royal Free is centred. A senior doctor there used to allow women to give birth on their sides or on all fours, if they so wished, a practice which is now to cease.

The idea of the survey came from Elinor Ratnam, who used to get frequent letters from women complaining about their treatment during pregnancy and birth. She asked viewers who were expecting babies in 1981 to write to the programme. Out of the 10,000 replies, 6,000 took part in the survey, filling in detailed forms consisting of 111 questions, drawn up with advice from the medical profession. It is the largest survey of its kind ever undertaken.

Unless such clinics could be made attractive to such women, they would slip through the ante-natal care net.

An example of the distance some women had to travel was given in the case of Pauline, aged 18, from Studley. Her husband was expected to travel 20 miles to the hospital clinic at a cost of £3.36 return on public transport and visit it 12 times.

The unsympathetic attitude of some employers is also illustrated. Bridget, aged 24, worked in a factory. "My job entailed lifting and carrying heavy boxes and I was unwilling to give me a lighter job, resulting in my being rushed into hospital at 25 weeks with a threatened miscarriage."

In no area was the picture all black, however. Seventy six per cent said employers were sympathetic and 62 per cent got paid leave to visit ante-natal clinics.

Attitudes to high technology equipment similarly varied. Some found foetal heart monitors reassuring; others found it meant they could not move around and get comfortable. Some loved epidural anaesthetics, particularly those who had them for Caesareans; others felt it resulted in their having to have a forceps delivery.

The book emphasizes, above all, that no two women are alike and that childbirth will only become the rewarding experience it should be if the professionals grasp that inconvenient nettle.

Annabel Ferriman  
"The British Way of Birth," compiled by Catherine Boyd and Lea Sellers, published by Pan, price £1.50.

# Pregnant women and their birth rights

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We did a poll of our members on the proposed changes to make seatbelts compulsory, he says "and, although I and the executive committee are in favour, three-fifths of the membership are against".

Howell himself always wears a seatbelt. My wife wears one on the longer journeys, he says, "but most accidents happen near home on short journeys". "You try telling people," says Howell wearily.

Norman St John-Stevens leaves for Poland tomorrow to complete a documentary on the Pope for BBC television. His will be the first BBC television documentary team allowed into Poland since the imposition of martial law.

It will film in Warsaw and the south, and around Katowice and Cracow where Pope John Paul II was brought up. The assignment completes a double first for our former arts minister: he also had the first private audience with the Pope to have been filmed for television.

Even chinees?  
Because he is both a mayor and a hotelier, Bournemouth's first citizen, Gordon Anstee, has been chosen by the Foreign Office for an official visit to the Chinese city of Hangchow, during which he will advise on equipping and running a new hotel for western tourists and businessmen.

Anstee, whose own, Broughty Ferry Hotel in Boscumbe, Spey,

doctor just came" on his rounds, looked at my file, and said to the sister: "Yes, if Mrs P hasn't started by Tuesday we'll start her off and have her upstairs". Then he looked at me and said "OK?" What could I say? I was terrified and couldn't stop crying when my husband came to visit me."

Hospital ante-natal clinics predilection came in for a lot of criticism. Long waits in hot and stuffy rooms, no refreshments, no creches for tired and hungry toddlers, long and expensive journeys and a lack of privacy were all complaints made about such clinics. Many complained particularly about never seeing the same doctor twice.

The significance for Britain's perinatal mortality rates of such unattractive clinics was made plain by Mrs Catherine Boyd, of the Society of Women, who is co-author of the book.

She said mothers who only attended such clinics irregularly were often criticized as irresponsible, but the demands made on some women in terms of distances they had to travel and times they had to wait were quite unreasonable.

The increasing tendency to concentrate ante-natal care in hospitals was expected to be worrying because although it did not adversely affect middle class women who had cars and could more easily take time off work, it did put off working class women coping with public transport, unsympathetic employers, and it was these women who were most at risk of having stillbirths or handicapped babies.

How the 6,000 coped with labour

Drug free	4%
Epidural	42
General anaesthetic	14
Gas and oxygen	23
General anaesthetic	5.3
Other	0.7
Total	100

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Would the cries of outrage now reverberating round the establishment of self-styled liberals have been heard at all if the Metropolitan Police figures breaking down the incidence of robberies and other violent thefts between blacks and whites had produced the opposite result?

If, instead of showing that a greatly disproportionate number (as well as an absolute majority) of such crimes in London are committed by blacks, the statistics had indicated an equal proportion between blacks and whites, would that most have been committed by whites? Would not their publication have been greeted with acclaim by those who now condemn them?

In the light of many years' experience of the reflexes of the race relations pressure groups, and of those in the media who reflect their thinking, whenever there have been reports of offences involving blacks, we know the answer to these questions now. What is condemned is the information conveyed by the statistics rather than the statistical exercise.

Indeed, this is virtually confirmed by those who, feeling uneasy about saying outright that the figures should have been suppressed, argue that if they were to be produced they should be "interpreted", which is a euphemism for explained away by social causes in the

manner to which we are well accustomed.

Yet for Scotland Yard to have interpreted the statistics would have been for the police to enter the political arena, which is the first thing that the race relations groups would condemn if the police produced explanations of which they disapproved. Quite rightly, therefore, Scotland Yard took the view that as they were under pressure to publish their figures they should be released without gloss.

The figures merely confirmed what everybody in and out of the police already knew. To suppress them would have been a political action which would have further damaged the morale of the police who have to face these problems.

Persistently the police are accused of stopping and questioning young black people more than other young people, and it is understandable that they should feel they owe the public an explanation. The public which is owed this explanation includes the innocent young blacks who are stopped and their understandably indignant parents.

winning television play *United Kingdom* and his recent contribution to the BBC book *Manifesto* argued that there should be a maximum national income of £28,000 (more than the Statesman could afford, anyway). He should be able to count on some support from one NS board member, Professor Peter Towns, who was also among *Manifesto*'s contributors.

Despite rumours, and approaches from more than one board member, Christopher Price, MP, will not be trying for the job.

Bountiful  
Good news for Welsh minks and cormorants. After 10 years the Welsh Water Authority is to stop paying bounty hunters £2 for each dead rodent and up to £1 for each bird presented to its warden. The system now abandoned was intended to protect stocks of salmon and trout.

The food chemistry group of the Royal Society of Chemistry began its 1982 programme with appropriate expertise yesterday when a symposium on recent advances in the chemistry of milk and dairy products was introduced by Dr G. C. Cheeseman.

Hard cases  
Recently published crime figures may be contributing to some doctory decisions handed down recently from the judicial benches.

A judge, at Croydon Crown Court was considering sending a

The explanation is provided by the statistics.

At the time the figures were produced, the Assistant Commissioner, Sir Gilbert Keir, stressed that black criminals were a small minority of the black population, but this is no reason for refusing to face the fact that in this particularly vicious type of crime, black criminals are predominant.

The Scarman report itself discussed the whole question of the recent riots in the light of the problems and difficulties specific to black communities. This done, what more natural than that the police should respond by producing the facts about violent robberies involving those communities.

They have done a service to the black as well as the white community by showing us what we face. To have appeared to suppress the truth would have been to attempt to bottle up public anger and risk its eventual explosion.

However, it is perhaps necessary to explain this anger to the black community. Some of the shriller voices who purport to represent them ask why this

particular kind of crime should be picked on? Why not fraud or motoring offences, say, in which whites presumably predominate?

The answer is simple. Some crimes are held to be more morally offensive, heinous and disgusting than others, and what disgusts most people about this particular sort is its wanton cruelty, heartlessness, and sheer inhumanity — particularly to the defenceless old and usually poor people who are among its principal victims, and who (whatever other crimes existed) used not long ago to be able to walk the streets of their neighbourhood unharmed.

The great law-abiding majority of the black community is against the vicious assault of blacks against whites, but the police nevertheless find reluctance among the black community to cooperate in helping identify or in delivering up suspects.

Likewise, while there is now a general assumption that there ought to be a due proportion of blacks on a jury when blacks are tried, there is an equal belief among police and public

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## WHEN THE POLICE CRY 'HELP'

By seeking to re-ignite the debate about capital punishment the Police Federation can hardly be expected to win this Parliament on its point of view. In July 1979 the House of Commons voted by a majority of 65-119 against a motion that the death penalty should again be available to the courts. Front and back benches alike would for the most part be reluctant to go over the ground again when neither the arguments nor the facts to which they relate have since been revolutionised. There was no majority in this Parliament for the restoration of capital punishment nor is there likely to be.

The federation's purpose must have a longer view. It is also perhaps to rally public support for the police who are feeling a bit beleaguered — even, in their darker moments, deserted — after the urban rioting last year, the barrage of criticism it brought down on them, the rising trends in most of the more publicly sensitive categories of crime, and the creeping propensity to public violence in word and deed.

Capital punishment is directly relevant to a very small part of this broad field of concern. But because of the acute difficulties that even its most limited application gives rise to, and because its presence or absence in the range of penalties available to the courts is quite commonly seen as in some way indicative of the public determination to fight crime, it has to be considered on its merits at any given time.

The moral arguments adduced to show that the state ought not to take life in punishment, though weighty and for some minds decisive, do not form the public argument. That must proceed to an examination of the utility of the death penalty for preserving the peace and order of society. If it can be shown to be a uniquely effective deterrent against criminal activity that poses a continuing threat to life and safety, its reintroduction may be necessary. If it cannot be shown, it is better to be without it in view of the admitted difficulties surrounding its administration and the risk of miscarriage of justice.

So far the case for going back to it has not been made out. It is now claimed that circumstances have altered in two respects which shift the balance of the argument.

First, there is the reported tendency for professional criminals to carry, and use, firearms in furtherance of their crimes, one consequence of which is death or injury to more policemen on duty. Second, there is terrorism.

Commonsense suggests that the availability of the death penalty would deter professional criminals from going armed in the commission of their crimes and there is some, though not conclusive, statistical support for commonsense. There is in all probability a significantly longer prison sentence awaiting a robber who shoots and kills a policeman than awaits the convicted author of a vicious and valuable robbery with violence. But, on a rational calculation, the difference may not be perceived so great as to outweigh the worth of the possibility of shooting a way out of trouble if disturbed in the act, and so escaping punishment altogether. Under the present penal system there is not a lot that can be done to reverse the conclusion of that calculation. Making such a killing a capital offence would most definitely reverse it. This is a consideration that weighs in favour of the limited restoration of capital punishment.

It is otherwise with terrorism, terrorism, terrorism, the politically motivated sort at least. In the first place many who kill selectively or indiscriminately for political reasons are fanatics, beyond the reach of rational penal dissuasion. In the second place, the drama and ceremonies surrounding capital trials and executions invite retaliatory threats and killings, and may be turned to advantage by the terrorists' propaganda agencies. No one who was awake when republicans were starving themselves to death will be in doubt as to the measure of the likely agitation if they had been dying, not at their own hands, but in a British hangman's noose.

Capital punishment would be worse than useless against the brand of terrorism to which the United Kingdom is now subjected. As a general specific against terrorism it may possibly be decisive in favourable circumstances if applied with the freedom and intensity of counter-terror.

That option is not to be considered in this realm.

So of the two considerations, freshly adduced in favour of the restoration of the death penalty one is counter-

indicative, the other is positive. But before anyone concludes that a case has been made out, he has to meet this difficulty. It is not proposed that all homicides should be hanging offences: only some, of a particularly socially threatening kind. The death penalty is rightly seen as standing apart from all other penalties as uniquely dreadful, and unique also in as much as, once imposed, it cannot be lifted if shown to have been imposed in error. Being a penalty in a class by itself, it is justifiable and fitting only if the crimes to which it attaches are also in a class by themselves, similarly defined by their being uniquely heinous.

In practice that cannot be done: at any rate the congruence was signally absent from the distinctions made between capital and non-capital murder before the penalty was suspended and then abolished (except for high treason) in the 1960s, and no one has since shown how the congruence can be achieved. Without it the death penalty would be a capricious, suspect chronically disturbing element in the penal system. The argument from deterrence would have to be very powerful indeed to overcome that objection; and however it is rationally assessed, it does not come out as strong as that.

Simply to repeat the case put forward by the Police Federation is not enough. Nor is there any need to impugn their motives or suspect their intentions in playing on public opinion. The police stand out in front of us for the principle of order and the sway of the law against ever more sophisticated criminal techniques and against lawless and violent inclinations that do not diminish and probably increase. They are not obviously winning the containment. They are subjected to much studied political misrepresentation, in answering which they are not always well served by their most eloquent spokesmen.

Against these odds they remain to a general extent disciplined, civil, honest, capable and identified with the community. We are fortunate. But it is as much the general body of citizens as the police forces themselves that will cause that favoured state to be either preserved or lost. They need our moral and active help. We need to give it, for our sakes as much as theirs.

## A PROMISE AND A THREAT

Mr Brezhnev's remarks on nuclear weapons in Europe contain a mixture of conciliation and threats, which is fairly familiar. He announced that he was halting the deployment of SS-20 missiles, and that if Nato agreed not to deploy the new Pershing and Cruise missiles he would "carry out a unilateral reduction of the number of our nuclear weapons in Europe as part of the future reductions agreed upon". If, on the other hand, the Americans start "practical preparations" for the deployment of their new missiles he would take "retaliatory steps that would put the other side, including the United States itself, in an analogous position".

First the offer, then the threats. The Soviet Union has already deployed about 300 SS-20s with three warheads each. Since they are mobile and can reach western Europe from behind the Urals, it is meaningless to offer to reduce the number "in Europe". Moreover, it is very probable that 300 is about the number the Soviet Union intended to deploy anyway, so the "freeze" may amount to nothing more than the completion of a programme, though the Americans say they have spotted new sites both east and west of the Urals. If the Americans were to respond by not deploying the new weapons the European theatre would be left with a substantial nuclear imbalance in favour of the Russians.

Of course it can be argued that a strict theatre balance is unnecessary because the Americans have plenty of long-range weapons with

which they could respond to a Soviet nuclear attack on western Europe, so there is no strictly military need for the Pershings and Cruise missiles. But these weapons were originally intended to meet European fears that the Americans would not engage their strategic systems, and thereby put their own territory at risk in response to a limited nuclear attack on Europe. The weapons were to provide an intermediate level of response and a symbol of American commitment to Europe. Since then sections of European public opinion have come to regard them as demonstrating America's willingness to fight a limited nuclear war in Europe, and in a sense they are, in so far as it is assumed that the Russians would be more deterred from attacking western Europe if they believed the Americans could respond without necessarily risking a strategic exchange. But distrust of Mr Reagan drove many people to choose the more pessimistic interpretation of a necessarily ambiguous position.

The situation now is that Nato cannot allow Soviet pressure to change its mind. The Nato decision was in fact perfectly reasonable, since even if the new weapons are not absolutely vital militarily they do serve three very useful purposes. They counter the psychological effects that would follow from a large imbalance of nuclear weapons in Europe; they provide added deterrence against a Soviet threat to western Europe; and they have already provided useful impetus towards negotiation. The Russians are obviously worried by them, especially as they could arrive on Soviet territory with much

less warning than long-range weapons. Hence Mr Brezhnev's continuing efforts to prevent their deployment.

But if there is nothing very new in his offers, there is a new element in his threat of "retaliatory steps" which would involve putting American territory in an "analogous position". The only way of going this would be to deploy missiles in such a way as to reduce the warning time available to the United States. The Americans have therefore concluded that they may be thinking of putting missiles into Cuba or Central America, though submarines could do the job too.

It seems unlikely that the Russians would wish at this moment to provoke a replay of the Cuban missile crisis of 1962, which brought the superpowers close to war. Admittedly their strategic position is better now than it was then, but the risks would still be high. Probably, therefore, Mr Brezhnev is aiming his remarks more at western European public opinion than at the White House itself. But he knows that American opinion is also developing concern about nuclear weapons so he may feel it a good moment for a long-range strategic strike in the psychological war which surrounds the negotiations in Geneva.

Now that these negotiations have recessed until May there is a good opportunity for reflection. It should not be influenced by Soviet threats, but it should take the obvious level of Soviet concern as a sign that behind the Soviet Union's public postures there may be some real willingness to work towards an agreement.

## Italian mail delays

From Monsignor Bruno S. Jozef  
Sir, I think it is important for any of your readers who may have contacts in Italy to know that the Italian posts, always bad, are now a disaster. Letters posted in Rome would be well advised to post their letters to England or America at the Vatican Post Office. This post is efficient and

average, 10 days to a fortnight to arrive, sometimes more. Letters from Rome to Naples take, on an average, at least 10 days to arrive. It helps to send letters for Italy express, but it is a cash extra and makes very much difference. English and Americans living in Rome would be well advised to post their letters to England or America at the Vatican Post Office. This post is efficient and

the personnel are polite and helpful. Like everything else in the Vatican, it is also spotlessly clean.  
Yours sincerely,  
BRUNO S. JAMES,  
Villa Ferretti,  
Via Milano 73,  
Capomonte,  
Napoli.  
March 1.

## Effect of Pope's visit on unity

From the Bishop of Chelmsford and the Right Reverend B.C. Butler

Sir, The English Anglican-Roman Catholic Committee (the national body charged with relations between our two churches), of which we are co-chairmen, met in London on March 9. We wish to record the welcome of our committee for the forthcoming pastoral visit of His Holiness Pope John Paul II to this country. The Pope himself on more than one occasion has stressed his hope that this visit will further the cause of Christian unity in Great Britain, and an equally strong concern has been present in the thinking and planning of those who are organising the visit. We warmly share this hope for its ecumenical possibilities.

It would be unrealistic to pretend that there is not considerable anxiety about the visit. But these concerns do not, in our view, outweigh the positive gains which we look for and hope for from this visit.

The Pope's presence in this country, in May, cannot be separated from the publication within the next month of the final report of Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC) and in particular of the role of the Papacy. Yet the two cannot be separated, and in particular we must not expect the visit itself to solve the theological problems discussed by ARCIC.

On May 29 the Pope will be the guest of the Archbishop of Canterbury at a great service in Canterbury Cathedral in which representatives of all the principal Christian traditions in England will be taking part. This service will be followed by a time of "serious and well prepared discussion" between the Pope and the leaders of the churches. In his presidential address to the General Synod of the Church of England the Archbishop of Canterbury spoke about the service, which he hoped would give us "the right model for our attitudes". Three emphases will be embodied: "First, welcome, then, affirmation of a common baptismal faith. Finally, affirmation of our common hope and vision for the future."

We identify ourselves with the Archbishop's words and all upon all Christian people in this country to make the most of the great positive opportunities which will be presented to us by the Pope's visit. In particular we hope it will provide a challenge to deeper commitment to unity among ordinary church members.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN CHELMSFORD,  
CHRISTOPHER BUTLER,  
Bishops of Chelmsford,  
Chelmsford,  
Essex.  
March 16.

## Oil embargo issues.

From Dr George Garai  
Sir, Sir John Wilton is right when he says (March 3) that October, 1973, was not one of the finest moments for the American-European alliance, but for a different reason.

While Israel was being attacked and fighting for survival, and while America was trying to fly ammunition and spare parts which Israel needed desperately, America's European allies not only refused to help but denied America the use of European airports and refuelling facilities. There were two ways of looking at the obligations of an alliance. Sir John Wilton's viewpoint seems to be that because Europe was more dependent on Arab oil than was America, Israel should have been sacrificed for the sake of Europe's needs. Luckily, America did not share that view. Had she done so history would not have looked kindly on the Western alliance.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE GARAI,  
Acting General Secretary,  
The Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland,  
Balfour House,  
741 High Road,  
Finchley, N12.  
March 9.

## The new poor

From Miss Astrid Moses  
Sir, On first reading, Dr Peter Bird's letter (March 10) appears to make a valid point, viz. poor, shivering academics contrasted with the luxurious life-style enjoyed by industrial tycoons. However, I am sure that if Dr Bird ventures out from his chilly cloister he might well find even more arctic conditions, possibly even coarser toilet tissue.

Any graduate fortunate enough to succeed in obtaining employment in these hard times can look forward to a life of stress, pressure, tension and competition in equal measure if he or she is going to survive in industry. Perhaps they should be allowed to enjoy a spot of high living before stepping on to the treadmill.

Incidentally, it is highly unlikely that any large company would pay £50 per night for an hotel room as they almost invariably enjoy special low rates with the various hotel groups.  
I am also wondering whether Dr Bird wrote his letter to you in a 60-minute lunch break, as I am doing now.  
Yours faithfully,  
ASTRID MOSES,  
3 Eden Road,  
Molescroft,  
Beverly,  
North Humberside.  
March 11.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Far-sighted policy for electricity

From Professor J. M. Cassels, FRS

Sir, In a report, "Power chiefs criticized over wasted electricity" (March 15), you set out, whether fully or not, criticisms of the "power chiefs" by the Electricity Consumers' Council. The main thrust of the criticisms appears to be that the "power chiefs" have been stupid and greedy in presiding over the growth of the Central Electricity Generating Board to the size it is today.

As an observer, and often a critic, of the CEBG I would like to express the view that such comment is unfair. Curiously enough the real culprit is not mentioned in your report — the fact that in this country it seems to take 10-15 years to finish a major power station. With a lead time so long the "power chiefs" would have to be clairvoyant to get the system right, and certainly they are not that.

If we look back 25 years we see Mr Heath's government trying to urge the country into growth at 4 per cent pa by telling every important industrial sector not to mind what the others were doing, but to see that it was itself doing its independent bit towards a more active future. The "power chiefs" duly did their bit by planning a very large electricity system and setting into motion the elements that had a long lead time, the power stations.

It is by this process that we have arrived at a generating system which is too large for the country as it is, unfortunately wallowing in the depths of a depression instead of growing steadily at 4 per cent pa. We should not seek to blame the "power chiefs" (nor, in my opinion, Mr Heath) for a national political and economic experiment which perhaps should have

been tried but which, quite simply, failed.

What we should do is to inquire more actively and publicly why we cannot build power stations in a time span more like that required to win a major world war, say, six years. If we could do that we should have a very much better chance of planning our needs correctly in future.

What is wrong? Do government and Whitehall fail to give the CEBG adequate delegated authority? Does the CEBG over-engineer its stations so that they are just too elaborate? Does a left-wing element in the unions seek to damage the country where it is vulnerable by promoting trouble on the building sites?

Do we encourage the men who build a power station as we ought to?

At the moment, as I understand it, the labour force that works on a power station is sacked when it is finished. If that is so, then no wonder they work a little slowly. Should we not try to build up an experienced and skilful labour force by arranging that good men who finish one power station will go on to build another for them to start? There could, say, be a bonus on a sliding scale for veterans working on their second or subsequent power station.

I suggest that we ought to be seeking the answers to questions like these rather than trying to shift the blame for an unfortunate history on to the shoulders of a few.

Yours faithfully,  
J. M. CASSELLS,  
University of Liverpool,  
Department of Physics,  
Oliver Lodge Laboratory,  
Oxford Street,  
Liverpool.  
March 16.

### Closing the frontiers

From Lord Hatch of Lusby

Sir, On March 4 I was informed by a minister of the Foreign Office in the House of Lords that the number of British citizens receiving supplementary grants for overseas has fallen from 4,083 in 1979 to 2,975 in 1981. The minister added that the reductions are expected to continue at about 10 per cent per annum over the next few years.

When the increase in fees for overseas students is taken into account, it is added to the reduction in British citizens enabled to serve abroad, it is clear that our communications with the rest of the world are undergoing a drastic change.

The minister does not seem particularly concerned about the deterioration in our relations with other people. He even suggested that foreign governments "sometimes choose to use the aid funds for other purposes", though he must have known that it is the British Government which has deliberately reduced supplementation without giving the other governments any choice.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN HATCH,  
House of Lords.  
March 8.

### Mansion House plans

From the President of the Royal Town Planning Institute

Sir, If our cities are ever to break away from their state nineteenth and twentieth-century forms the planning authorities will need to take a relaxed view of schemes for the improvement of the city.

These remarks are not directed purely to the form of the city. It would be equally sensible to encourage thinking about its function and we should be wary of substantial public investment where this serves only to maintain nineteenth and twentieth-century functions which are out of date. Sadly, alternative functions are not being given full consideration in some cities and we are prone to treat the urban decline. But that is a bigger issue.

Personally I find the design for new buildings less stimulating than similar buildings abroad and there is little inspiration in the layout for the square. These are not good planning reasons for refusal and

I believe that many people in this country, not least in the business world, are more concerned than the Government with this increasing evidence of British insularity. When I try to recruit British staff to the University of Zambia I am told that there is little chance of doing so as our supplements have been cut from 75 to 36 and will continue to fall.

When I am asked to advise graduates as to where they should take their higher degrees I am told that fees at British universities are twice as high as in the United States. This drastically changing relationship between Britain and the rest of the world is taking place almost unnoticed. I believe that a great many people in this country would be seriously concerned about its effects, particularly on the younger generation, if the Government openly stated their policy intentions.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN HATCH,  
House of Lords.  
March 8.

are offset by my general admiration for the concept. So perhaps this is a chance to show that we live in a dynamic and progressive society which does not see the city as a period piece to be preserved at all costs.

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Personally I find the design for new buildings less stimulating than similar buildings abroad and there is little inspiration in the layout for the square. These are not good planning reasons for refusal and

formed only a small proportion of the applications that came before the committees, but I do recall that in the vast majority of cases the grounds of the appeal were completely genuine.

May it not, perhaps, be inferred from the fact that the majority of conscripts did not apply for postponement of call-up, and from the further fact that the majority of those who made such applications had good grounds for doing so, that in the late 1950s young men and their relatives accepted National Service as one of the facts of life? Is there any good reason for supposing that some form of national service would not be equally acceptable today?

Yours faithfully,  
DESMOND NELIGAN,  
Frobishers,  
Danhill Crossroads,  
West Chilton,  
Pulborough,  
Sussex.  
March 11.

### Cattle market welfare

From Mr A. C. W. Hart

Sir, The reason for the RSPCA inspectors' reduction about which Mr J. S. R. Griffith complains (March 11) is simply money. The RSPCA faced a deficit of almost £2m for 1982. Stringent cuts were necessary throughout. Unlike Government or industry, we cannot put up charges if costs exceed money available.

Our inspectors will still attend markets. Spot checks will still be made. Our inspectors will just not be able to spend quite as long as hitherto at each market. Our resources in any event could never allow us to attend each of the 500 markets all the time. We would prefer to see animals slaughtered near the point of

production rather than transported up to 200 miles or more for commercial reasons.

We have indeed an RSPCA markets working party sitting currently. This is investigating all aspects of market welfare. It is receiving evidence from all involved in markets including the veterinary profession and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The report when published towards the end of the year is likely to require stringent improvements.

Yours faithfully,  
ANSEL HART,  
Chairman of the Council,  
Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,  
Causeway, Horsham,  
West Sussex.  
March 15.

## Pirating of film cassettes

From Mr Michael Winner

Sir, I have recently been made aware of the extraordinary volume of illegal business of selling pirated film cassettes in this country. My film *Death Wish II* has the dubious distinction of being the fastest ever available on the underground video tapes sold all over England at this moment. I also understand it has been playing in pubs in Dublin for some six weeks, and is available via roundmen in Hastings on a door-to-door basis!

Last year the American Trade Association estimated that film rentals worldwide sales through illegal video sales of films amounted to £500m. This figure will have increased substantially by now. One hundred million pounds was reckoned to be lost by United Kingdom cinemas alone.

Prosecutions are hampered by the 1956 Copyright Act, which provides penalties of 40 shillings to £50. Since cinema managers have reported being offered £4,000 to "lend" films to pirates overnight, even private actions for damages are insignificant in relation to the problem. I understand the highest award in this case is £12,000 damages and £8,000 costs.

Lord Fletcher is now steering a Bill through the House of Lords which, if passed, will make it illegal to sell a pirated video, which would transform the situation. It is to be hoped that his Bill will pass the House of Lords and then find time in the Commons, even though as estimated £100m will have been lost in this country by the time it becomes law. Included in that, presumably, is a vast loss to the Inland Revenue, and thus to the nation.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL WINNER,  
Scimitar Films Ltd,  
6-8 Saville Street, W1.  
March 4.

## Conflict of interest

From Mr J. Raymond Hawthorn

Sir, We realise of course that journalists — and editors, perhaps — are people who have mortgages and not building society accounts. Hence the general jubilation when the rates come down. But in this same jubilation of ours there are very many people, especially the old to whom building society interest is a major part of income, and they do not share this feeling.

Some are in fact now losing a sixth of the income from their savings, but no table appears on the concept "non-white" but the non-white population born in this country cannot be measured using 1981 census data. Thus the figures quoted cannot be for "concentrations of non-white people" as the title states.

Not only this, but the proportions given are for the population living in households with heads born in the New Commonwealth and Pakistan (NCWP) which will obviously include many NCWP-born members of the households but miss the NCWP-born in other households. Also included in the census figures will be people not traditionally thought of as non-white. For instance, Haringey's sizable Cypriot population.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID FRITH,  
Borough Planning Officer,  
Borough of Haringey,  
Hornsey Town Hall,  
The Broadway,  
Crouch End, N8.  
March 8.

The first principle to get straight is that only birthplace information is available from the 1981 census. Clearly there will be some correspondence with the concept "non-white" but the non-white population born in this country cannot be measured using 1981 census data. Thus the figures quoted cannot be for "concentrations of non-white people" as the title states.

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DAVID FRITH,  
Borough Planning Officer,  
Borough of Haringey,  
Hornsey Town Hall,  
The Broadway,  
Crouch End, N8.  
March 8.

## Operas in contest

From Mr Mosco Carnar

Sir, In his review of *Margot la Rouge* (February 22) your music critic, Paul Griffiths, asserts that, while Delius's opera was written for the Concorso Sornozzono of 1902, a similar contest was organized by the rival firm of Ricordi a dozen years earlier that brought forth *Cavalleria Rusticana* as the winning work.

The facts are quite different. For one thing, Ricordi never sponsored an open competition and for another he rejected Mascagni's opera, when Puccini showed him its score, out of hand, saying that "I do not believe in it" — one of the few miscalculations ever made by this shrewd judge of operatic winners.

Mascagni did enter the Sornozzono contest and won it in 1890 with sensational acclaim. Yours faithfully,  
MOSCO CARNAR,  
14 Elsworth Road, NW3.







## BUSINESS NEWS

## Post Office under fire over forecasts

The Post Office, which now expects to make an £80m profit this year, is under fire for using earlier low profit forecasts to justify raising postal charges.

The Post Office Users' National Council (POUNC) told a Parliamentary Select Committee on Industry and Trade that the postal service's forecast for 1982 was £80m, compared with £10m in 1981.

After the proposed price increases in postal charges the corporation is expected to make a profit of £80m, which would be required to do it.

The Government financial targets of 2 per cent return on revenue.

A few bomb threats were made and put off the day.

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Government urged to rush through licensing

## Call for 30-channel cable TV

By Bill Johnston

Britain could have a 30-channel cable television system within two years if the recommendations of the Cabinet Information Technology Advisory Panel are adopted.

The findings of the panel, to be published next Monday, call on the Government to act in order to allow cable television operators to make plans without waiting for what they feel is unnecessary legislation.

The report has been prepared for Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, who has taken a personal interest in the project.

The report concludes: "Such licensing could take place initially under existing legislation and administrative arrangements."

A policy statement by the Government is now expected as a result of the report to which 21 British companies contributed. These included cable manufacturers like BICC, travel agents Thomas Cook and retail shops like Debenhams.

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Tesco has also contributed and is at present involved in running an experiment in Gateshead in which goods can be ordered from an electronic terminal several miles from its store.

The authors say that "wire" Britain would require an investment of £1,000m a year for the next 10 years, but they are confident that the funds are available.

"Our investigations have revealed considerable interest by the private firms (not only from established cable companies) in the possibility of participating in cable systems and we have no doubt that funds would be available from commercial sources to finance the installation of the cable systems."

The decision must be made by the middle of this year the authors say, and the necessary mechanisms for controlling the operators by the beginning of next year.

However, the report strongly favours encouraging support for British manufacturers of cable and the



Mrs Thatcher: personal interest in project



Mr Kenneth Baker: studying report

electronic equipment to act quickly. "There is a very limited time in which industrial capability and market opportunity will exist in the United Kingdom. Beyond then, the chance of creating a strong United Kingdom presence in cable systems will have disappeared and with it some thousands of jobs and prospects of substantial export earnings," the panel says.

The report is being closely studied by Mr Kenneth Baker, the Information Technology Minister.

If the panel's findings are given immediate approval the first part of a national cable television system could be operational within 18 months. At a cost of £5-10 a month to the subscribers.

The advisory group suggests a minimum of 30 channels of which at least 20

## Whitehall job for property man

By Baron Phillips



Sterling: a look at privatizing British Telecom

Mr Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of Town & City Properties, has been appointed special adviser to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry. He takes over from Mr David Young, who is moving to the Manpower Services Commission.

The new appointment extends Mr Sterling's involvement in the public sector, he was until recently a Government representative on the board of British Airways.

For over seven years he has nursed Town & City through the severe problems that followed the crash of the property market in 1974.

Mr Sterling's early career included working for the former investment banker George Eberstadt, later he joined Sir Isaac Wolfson's General Guarantee Corporation.

By 1969 he launched Sterling Guarantee which, in a series of takeovers, including Salisbury handbags and Cammings, grew rapidly during the early 1970s. Then came the association with Town & City, through joint developments such as Earls Court and Olympia.

## Opec plans cheap loans to underpin oil prices

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries are planning to give financial aid to Nigeria and possibly Venezuela to try to persuade them not to cut their oil prices and so destroy Opec's official pricing structure, it was reported yesterday.

The two countries, faced with heavy debts and a shortage of customers because of the world oil glut, are under pressure to reduce prices. If they do so, they will sabotage Opec's plan to hold prices at existing levels by conceding cuts in production. The plan is to be discussed at a meeting of Opec's 13 members in Vienna tomorrow.

The Nigerians and Venezuelans are expected to be offered cheap loans to compensate for any fall in revenue as a result of holding their prices. Venezuela has already cut

## £26m Turner &amp; Newall losses shake City

By Our Financial Staff

A net loss of £26m, a passed final dividend and a sharp increase in borrowings last year hit both the Turner & Newall share price and the Financial Times index hard yesterday.

The T & N share price fell 15p to 77p, while the FT share index of which T & N is a constituent, closed 11 points lower at 551.4.

The news from T & N shook the City. The hope was that the company had been slowly recovering from the recession, instead it became clear that the initial signs of improvement last summer were knocked on the head in the final quarter of last year as higher interest rates led customers to curtail fresh orders.

Although the group's trading profit in the United Kingdom last year was slightly improved at £3m, that has to be set against sales of £363m. With Europe

and America both turning in reduced profits as a result of the recession, it was left to a rise from £20m to £28.3m in African profits to help the group to produce an advance in pre-tax profits from £6.2m to £11m.

News of the T & N results did nothing to help stock market sentiment. Sw Fr 58.2m had already been slipping from the opening on general unease about the outlook for international interest rates. Government stocks also lost more ground.

Interest rates, however, dollar interest rates tended to ease slightly yesterday. The dollar itself also drifted easier in quiet trading and the pound gained 45 points to \$1.81. Its index against a basket of currencies rose 0.1 to 90.7.

Invested in equities, property and gilt-edged securities

Year to 31 December 1981

Income Shares % change over 1 year

Dividends 12.10p + 7.0%

Value 161.20p + 8.7%

Comparative Indices for a Mixed Fund

FT Government Securities - 7.1%

FT Actuaries All-Share +10.9%

USA Standard & Poors Composite (adjusted) +17.7%

Accumulation Shares

Value 398.03p +10.4%

\*Due to changed accounting period, dividends of 12.10p paid for 49 weeks, equivalent to 12.80p, in full year, an increase of 7%.

Features of the Fund

A common investment fund under a Scheme of The Charities Commissioners.

Available to any charity in England and Wales.

A Special Reserve investment - no dividend of a contributing charity's capital required under the Trustee Investment Act.

Income shares for steady income growth. Dividends paid free of U.K. Income Tax.

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## BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

## PEOPLE

## Pele in World Cup of coffee

Brazil is planning a multi-million dollar publicity campaign using soccer superstar Edson Pele and the entire national team to boost global sales of its coffee before the World Cup competition in June. The Brazilian Coffee Institute (IBC), which controls exports of the commodity, said-Brazilian coffee would be advertised throughout the media in Europe, the United States and Japan.

Pele, who has signed a preliminary contract with the IBC, will receive a maximum of 10 per cent of the cost of all advertising in which he appears.

## Promiscuity in a bottle?

Trevor Barker really is having his gateau and eating it. Barker, marketing manager of Food and Wine from France, the French Government's promotion organization in this country, is about to embark on this year's advertising campaign for wine, under the slogan "French wine: the affordable pleasure."

For the first time, Barker and FWF are to advertise in women's magazines, those bastions of monogamous perseverance, reflecting the increasing importance of housewives as buyers of wine.

But on Monday, television viewers in London, the South-east and the Midlands will see the first of the FWF commercials.

These show a cosy dinner at which a smiling Englishman pours wine for an appreciative woman. "Why eat these men smiling?" he breathes the voice-over. "Because it is celebrating his wife's birthday with a bottle of wine... or because of the pleasure of sharing such a good wine for well under £3... or is it because this is not a wife?"

Says Barker: "Somebody at the Independent Television Contractors' Association asked us whether we were selling French wine or promiscuity."



Michael McHatton: Two hats

## Two kinds of baby food

Michael McHatton is now in two kinds of baby food business. Wearing one hat, that of Victoria Baby Foods, McHatton is the United Kingdom distributor of Gallia baby foods, which he came across when holidaying in France with a family party that included his youngest daughter, Victoria, then six months old.

Wearing a second hat, that of Executive Business Services, McHatton is now spoon-feeding cash-starved young companies with a consultancy service specializing in raising finance.

He came across this stock-in-trade not in France but right here, in Britain, in the long years setting up in business on his own after he lost his job as chief accountant of TWW, the television contractor for Wales and the West of England which lost its IBA contract to Harlech in 1967.

● Hugh Jones, the local branch president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (the Mormons) in Llanelli, South Wales, has an intriguing suggestion for the re-classification of one branch of labour, missionaries.

Jones, who says he cannot find suitable rented housing for some in-comeing Mormon missionaries, has turned to the house letting committee of the borough council with the suggestion that the missionaries should qualify for the council's "key worker" accommodation.

If such a request is unusual in coming from a church and is not noticeably a poor one at that, the accommodation sought is not. The newcomers are a couple and not one of those Mormon families with more wives than British council housing was designed to handle.

## NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr Philip Birch deputy chairman and managing director of Ward White Group has been appointed chairman and managing director in succession to Mr George McWaters. Mr D. D. De Carle has been appointed a non-executive vice-chairman.

Mr Antony Arfwedson, Mr Martin Lee-Warner and Mr Andrew Pocock have been appointed executive directors and Mr Kristian Wallin a non-executive director of Samuel Montagu & Co.

## Harsh alternatives for the Opec oil ministers

The 13 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries who are meeting in Vienna tomorrow are faced with what are effectively two simple questions. First, can they collectively cut back their production by enough to prevent having to lower the price of their oil? Second, can they individually, afford to do so? The answer on both counts could be no.

The meeting, technically a consultative conference which could be turned into a formal mandatory session if progress is made, is taking place against a background of unrelenting pressure on the oil producers' organization. Faced with a dramatic decline in world oil demand, Opec is already producing less oil than at any time since the early 1970s, and some of its leaders warn openly of the dangers of its disintegration.

For the first time in Opec's 21-year history, member nations are being asked to agree to a system of formal production quotas which will reduce the group's output well further, this time to 18.5 million barrels a day.

This would be about six million barrels a day — or 25 per cent — less than Opec is producing at present, the first quarter of last year, and way below its peak production in 1977, when output was 31 million barrels daily. Opec output is officially put at about 20 million barrels a day, although industry observers believe the real total may already be down to 18.5 million barrels.

The significance of what is now being proposed should not be underestimated. Although production cuts have been agreed at past Opec meetings, most recently last June, they have never been adopted by all 13 members in unison, and in practice have never been properly implemented for more than a few weeks.

Saudi Arabia, notably, has consistently refused to allow its output levels even to be discussed at Opec meetings, saying that they are a sovereign matter, over which Opec — as a purely price-fixing organisation — has no authority.

Whether that policy has been formally changed is something that observers at tomorrow's meeting will be most keen to learn from Shaikh Yamani, the Saudi Arabian Oil Minister. Saudi Arabia has already reduced its official production ceiling from 8.5 million to 7.5 million barrels a day as from this month.

This reduction is, as Opec admits, critical to achieving the new 18.5 million barrel

quota target, and accounts for two thirds of the 1.5 million barrels a day cut that Opec needs to achieve it (see table).

Will even the production quotas be enough to save Opec's official pricing structure, still precariously based on a \$34 a barrel marker crude? The market and many Western oil companies think not, at least in the short term.

On the "spot" market, where marginal cargoes of crude are bought and sold, Saudi Arabian oil is still traded at \$5 to \$6 a barrel less than the official price. The "spot" price of oil products is even weaker, with the price of gas oil and fuel oil at their lowest for over a year.

It is this which is really dragging down the price of crude oil, rather than the reverse, as has traditionally been the case. It is now cheaper to buy ready-made refined products than it is to buy the crude oil and to go to the expense of turning it into petrol or heating oil. More significant than the "spot" market (which accounts for only 5 per cent of the world oil trade) is what is happening in the contract market.

Non-Opec oil producing countries including the United States, Britain, Mexico, Norway and Egypt have been forced to cut prices in the face of the oil glut. According to Petroleum Intelligence Weekly, nearly 13 million barrels a day of world oil supplies (some 30 per cent of the total) have been reduced in price this year by non-Opec producers, with the cut averaging \$1.90 a barrel.

Only two Opec members, Iran and Venezuela, have reduced official prices so far, which means that the average Opec price has fallen by only 36 cents a barrel. That

disparity cannot be maintained, and the chairman of both BP and Shell have indicated publicly in the last few days that Opec output must be trimmed by more than the organization is planning if it is to hold present prices.

The pressure on some individual members of Opec is becoming intense. Iran, still locked in an expensive war with Iraq and being treated with great wariness by potential customers in the light of its volatile political environment, has already cut its prices by an estimated \$4 a barrel, with apparently no prospect of recovery. Venezuela, which produces a large quantity of heavy oil, where world demand has slumped particularly deeply, has also been treated as a special case, and cut the prices of some of its crude.

Already, nine Opec members do not produce enough oil to meet their domestic budgetary requirements, and some of them — particularly the North African producers who compete directly with North Sea oil, now some \$5 a barrel cheaper — will find it hard to avoid cutting their official prices whatever happens at Vienna.

Nigeria is the country worst affected. It is the classic "high absorber" Opec member, with its large population and heavy commitments. Its oil output slumped from more than two million barrels a day to 700,000 barrels a day last summer as customers refused its overpriced oil, before recovering. Other Opec countries are believed to be considering bailing it out with cheap loans or financial assistance in an effort to help the country to preserve its official pricing facade.

Venezuela, lumbered with heavy debt burden, is also believed to be in line for

OPEC's PRODUCTION PLANS (000 barrels a day)

Country	Actual production 1981			Proposed quota	Peak Capacity
	qtr 1	qtr 2	qtr 3		
Saudi Arabia	10,200	10,200	9,950	8,990	7,500
Venezuela	2,200	2,122	1,939	2,156	1,900
Nigeria	1,588	1,422	847	1,510	1,500
Indonesia	1,628	1,612	1,594	1,581	1,500
Libya	1,613	1,387	633	607	800
United Arab Emirates	1,611	1,540	1,452	1,448	1,000
Kuwait	1,620	1,022	1,081	1,085	700
Iran	1,500	1,533	1,267	1,033	1,000
Iraq	887	912	967	1,100	1,000
Algeria	920	833	783	733	800
Qatar	499	430	345	348	300
Ecuador	220	205	212	210	250
Gabon	145	146	154	158	500

Source: Oil and Gas Journal, Petroleum Intelligence Weekly, industry estimates.  
\* Provisional estimates.

## Economic evolution — or costly decay?

Britain today has ceased to be an industrial nation. Industry, once the engine room of economic growth, now contributes less than two-fifths of the nation's total output of goods and services and accounts for an even smaller proportion of employment.

In terms of both output and employment, it is much less significant than the services sector.

There are, in other words, more bankers, shopkeepers, teachers, quantity surveyors, dentists and such like in this country than there are blue-collar workers in the steel mills, coal mines, engineering shops, shipyards and construction sites.

Public and private services, including transport and communications, provide jobs for three workers out of every five. Britain is thus acquiring the characteristics of a post-industrial or service economy. This is not a new development — it has been developing since the late 1950s, to some 3.5 million.

If the fall in the industrial workforce and the rise in service workers had taken place against a background of nearly full employment, there would not be too much to worry about. It would reflect a changing pattern of demand.

But it is clear that what is happening to the structure of the economy cannot be explained simply by a changing pattern in the demand for goods and services. The decline in industry and the rise in the services sector, far from being an inevitable and desirable development, is

or whether industrial decline is the consequence of some particular economic malaise.

The reason that nations become more service-oriented is that people, as they get richer, tend to spend an increasing proportion of their incomes on health care,

producing an economic structure that is fatally flawed. In spite of the rapid growth in the services sector, it has provided 1,250,000 fewer jobs than have been shed in the industrial sector over the past 20 years. (Some services, like railway transport, are themselves in decline.)

## PERSPECTIVE: DE-INDUSTRIALIZATION

By Melvyn Westlake

education, travel, dining out, playing squash and various conveniences like dry cleaning. To some extent, this does appear to be happening.

The number of people employed in the professional and scientific services — which includes teachers and medical personnel, as well as people like architects and accountants — has doubled since the late 1950s, to some 3.5 million.

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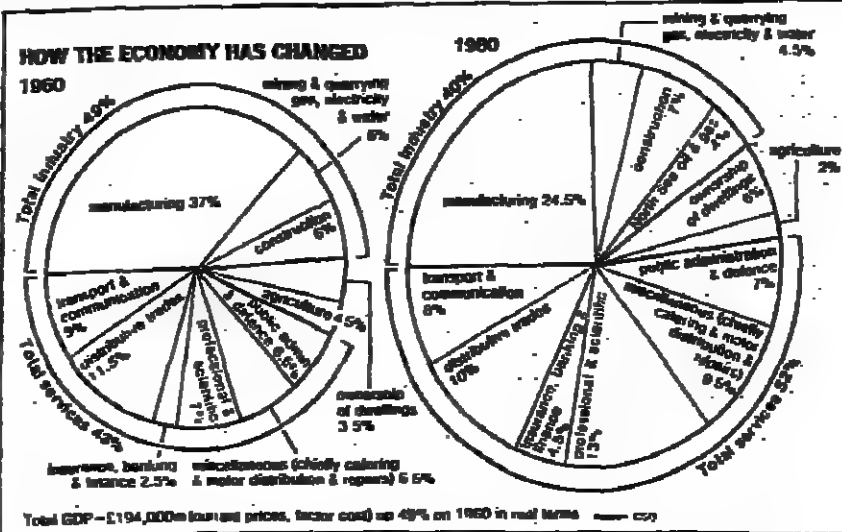
which also produces something close to two-thirds of that nation's gross domestic product. Sweden, The Netherlands, and Belgium all saw their manufacturing employment decline as a proportion of the total workforce between 1960 and the mid-1970s. But this decline was not as fast as in Britain.

Few countries have experienced a fall in manufacturing output even approaching that seen here in recent years. Furthermore until the mid-1970s Italy, Japan and to a lesser extent Germany, were re-industrializing. In the case of Germany, services contribute only about 30 per cent of gross domestic product (according to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development), and well under 20 per cent if government services are excluded, compared with more than twice that for Britain.

Some economists have blamed the contraction of industrial employment on the expansion of the public services. Others have suggested that the manufacturing industries could have been deprived of labour because the services sector in general, and the public services in particular, may have been offering higher pay.

However, as the expansion of public service employment has been chiefly composed of women, the first of these explanations is not convincing. Neither is there much evidence of a long-term shift in wage differentials which

The United States, it is said, was not only the most advanced service economy, but it has been one for four decades. Two out of every three jobs in America are in the services sector.



Some oil may have to go at "fire sale" prices

face-saving help, which would have to come from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. Algeria and Iraq also appear to be in need of cash. Some of these poorer Opec countries have already begun to offer secret discounts to oil buyers in the form of improved credit terms and similar devices.

The dilemmas for Opec is that, at its reduced production levels, the margin for future output cuts is at best limited. If the 18.5 million barrel a day target level does not do the trick, the only card left up its collective sleeve is a further reduction in Saudi output.

Given the Saudi Arabians' belief that Opec oil is overpriced and the kingdom's own minimum budgetary requirement of 6.5 million barrels a day, the pressure on individual Opec members to cut loose with unilateral price cuts in a bid for market share must be enormous.

Fear of just such a desperate move is what has prompted moderate Opec leaders such as Manu al-Otaibi of the United Arab

Emirates and Shaikh Ali Khalifa of Kuwait to warn their less well-off colleagues against risking collapse of the cartel.

The categorical insistence of these men that Opec will go out of its way to avoid reducing prices, despite the fact that the market apparently requires it, is not quite as absurd as it may sound.

Their point, which is reinforced by many Western analysts, is that in the short term the market will not support any price remotely near the existing \$34 a barrel. With summer, traditionally a period of weak oil demand, and companies desperately trying to run down stocks, the market value of the barrel is expected to fall to three million barrels a day of output that Opec is considering leaving in the ground is effectively non-existent.

With this kind of argument, it would not be surprising if Opec were to decide that, rather than make a humiliating across-the-board cut in prices, its best course would be to sit tight and wait for these abnormal seasonal factors to work themselves out of the system. In the meantime they would sell as much oil as they could at \$34 a barrel and dispose of the balance at "fire sale" prices where they could.

By the autumn, with companies starting to stock up again, the present pricing structure may become tenable again.

This strategy appears to be what tomorrow's meeting is really about: the problem is whether Opec can hold together its fragile and fractious membership through what are bound to be difficult months, especially since some of them suffer disproportionately far more than others. The omens are not good.

Jonathan Davis

## Business Editor

## Turner &amp; Newall's tale of woe

The horror stories from Britain's industrial heartland continue. Yesterday it was Turner & Newall's go to relate its tale, and a nasty one it was.

Just as it seemed that the group might have been over the worst late last summer, along came the autumn hike in interest rates, an end to customer restocking and, all in all, a fairly dismal final quarter. True, second half trading profits in the United Kingdom (£2.1m) were slightly better than the opening six months (£0.9m), and appreciably better than the loss of £6.6m in the second half of 1980. But full year United Kingdom trading profits of £3 on sales of £363m more underline the extent of the group's problems.

The optimistic way of looking at things is to see the recovery potential. And recovery of some kind there should be this year. The group sees a slow pick-up in its United Kingdom operations at present and should reap some quick returns both from lower interest rates and some quick pay back from its rationalization and surgery of the past couple of years responsible on a global basis last year for £5m of above-the-line exceptional charges and a further £20.1m below the line.



Mr Stephen Gibbs, chairman of T &amp; N

But City confidence in T & N has clearly been badly shaken by the latest figures. Inevitably, people will now start asking how much faith they should put in what on paper at least looks to be a substantial recovery potential.

Nor is it simply a question of disappointment with the passing of the final dividend.

After a net cash deficit approaching £50m last year, pushing net borrowings up from 35 to 51 per cent of shareholders' funds, and with a further outflow of perhaps £20m-£25m in prospect for the current year, the need to see a significant recovery in profitability seems to become more urgent.

Certainly, T & N has continued to do well in Africa. Trading profits there improved from £20m to £28.3m last year (put of a group total of £36.4m); and Africa was in part responsible for the sharp increase in short-term indebtedness as asbestos output was stockpiled towards the year's end.

But with asbestos demand flat and Zimbabwe labour laws keeping overheads high, mining profits could be significantly down on 1981's £10.2m. Moreover, the outlook for the South African and Nigerian economies is not as bright as it presents as it has been.

Overall then T&N has a lot still to do. Moreover, even with an improving trend in profitability it still looks as if it will have to look closely at ways of restructuring its refinances — a task slightly complicated by the fact that the share price is currently below par.

If profitability does not pick up sufficiently quickly, however, the group may have

to turn its thoughts to the possibility of disposing of a mainstream asset. At 77p, down 18p yesterday, the company is capitalized at £46m against shareholders' funds of just over £300m.

● In spite of the latest forebodings from Dr Henry Kaufman on the United States monetary outlook, it is not the dollar that is causing the currency limelight of the moment. Indeed, the United States currency was marginally easier yesterday on slightly lower Eurodollar interest rates. Instead, it is other currencies that are bouncing around the market, notably the French and Belgian francs, under renewed pressure in the EMS, and the Japanese yen.

That said, markets remain nervous about the American interest rate situation. In London, the Bank twice changed its shortage forecast and failed to keep the overnight interbank rate from climbing to 17 per cent during the afternoon not the best of performances on a make-up day.

## Commissions Humble pie

After a storm of criticism from all sections of the investing institutions, the Stock Exchange has had to eat humble pie and rescind its proposed increase in commission charges on equity transactions. The overall effect will be to reduce from 7.3 to 4.2 per cent the average rise in stockbrokers' income and there will still be those who argue that this is too much.

But at least small investors, who got the rawest deal out of the original commission scales, have been treated a little better with the increase on small deals chopped back from 16.7 to 10 per cent.

What is depressing about the whole episode, however, is just how out of touch the 23rd floor seems to be not only with market users but some of its own members. The Stock Exchange might have been less ready to compromise if a groundswell of opposition from some of the smaller stockbroking firms had not been prepared to voice their reservations.

These are precisely the firms — with an important private client business that they feared could have been further driven away from the equity market — who make up most of this part of their operations and think some of the research-based, institutionally-orientated brokers have guessed wrongly about trends in the 1980s. It is probably too much to hope that the reformation of the Stock Exchange council by the big boys will be broken by this brouhaha over commissions but it is certainly an encouraging sign that small firms are not always prepared to be trampled on.

The Stock Exchange has also shown great insensitivity in trying to raise commission fees without making much of a case for showing that stockbrokers' services on the broadening of the Office of Fair Trading case now looming. If and when that comes before the Restrictive Practices Court, the Stock Exchange will need all the friends it can to defend its rule book. Its political antennae could also have been better tuned since in burdening the small investor with higher costs, it seems to be setting its face against the Conservative Government's philosophy.

Through the indexation of capital gains and raising the threshold for CGT, the Chancellor gave the investing public its biggest shot in the arm for years in last week's Budget. Perhaps the thought of the likely enhanced attractions of the equity market for investors generally helped to change the Stock Exchange's mind.

## Crest Nicholson

The holding company with interests in property, optical products, conveying systems, sports surfaces and marine services

## 17% Growth in Profits

	1980	1981	Increase
Sales	£48,405,000	£54,068,000	12%
Pre-tax profits	5,421,000	6,324,000	17%
Earnings per share fully taxed	6.73p	8.76p	30%
Dividends per share	2.30p	2.85p	24%

\* Increase in profits for the seventh consecutive year

\* 24% increase in dividends per share

\* Continued further growth expected this year

Accounts available from the Secretary, Crest House, 91-97 Church Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 2NH



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## The Times Guide to Careers Training

### The personal touch still counts

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S.W.5. 01-373 3852.







## Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Pavle

## BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Social Psychology Laboratory; 7.05 Flight Failures; 7.30 Mining: Ends at 7.55. At 8.05: Schools: Colleges: Brazil; 8.25 It's Your Choice: 8.45 It's Yours: 10.10 Animals in the Soil (1); 10.32 Tabled Mine: The Last of the Title; 11.05 Living in the Alps; 11.30 The British Chartists; 11.55 After the Ice; 12.20 Interval; 12.30 News After Noon; 12.57 News headlines; financial report; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: A visit to Northumberland, including Bamburgh Castle and Kielder Forest; 1.45 King of the Hill; 2.00 You and Me; 2.15 Schools: Colleges; Music (Cope); 2.40 Television Club; 3.00 News; 3.15 Holiday: A Sardinian holiday camp; on board the QE2; and the National Centre for Mountain Activities in North Wales (1); 3.55 Play School (see BBC 2, 11.00 am).

## BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Why Build Models? 7.05 Getting It Together; 7.30 Borehole Logging; Ends at 7.55; 8.05 Key School: Edward Lear's Story: The Quagga Wagon: A Hat is illustrated by Helen Oxenbury, and presented by Sheelagh Gilbey and Johnny Ball; 11.25 Closedown; 2.00 Racing from Cheltenham: The National Hunt Festival, run over the New Course. We see the 2.15 Daily Express Triumph Hurdle Race, the 2.50 Christmas Foxhunter Chase, Challenge cup; the 3.30 Total Cheltenham Gold Cup (with £50,000 at stake) and the 4.05 Ritz Club National Hunt Handicap Steeplechase. Highlights tonight at 10.10.

## ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Physics; 9.52 Making a deal in Sheffield; 10.05 Water transport; 10.25 Business in Manchester and Los Angeles; 10.45 Biology: Dogwhelk; 11.05 Basic Maths; 11.22 Illustrations; 11.39 Middle English: Telling the Time; 12.00 The World; 12.30 The Sullivans wedding day; 1.00 News; from 1.10: 1.30 Thames area news; 1.50 Take the High Road; Scottish Estate Serial: A surprise at the big house; 2.00 Afternoon News; A clinic in California where children are taught to cope with fear and death, also an item on blood pressure; 2.45 City's Drama: about a Victorian policeman (Alan Davies); based on the Peter Looney books. Today: a mysterious run of heavy-haul accidents; 3.45 Row's Your Father: Harry Worth as a comical widower (1).

## Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing; 6.10 Farming Today; 6.30 Today; 6.55 Wednesday in Parliament; 9.00 News; 9.05 Checkpoint; 9.20 The Living World: A magazine edition; 10.00 News; 10.02 Town Hall Rules OK? Negotiations end out how local government works; 10.30 Daily Service; 10.45 Morning Story: 'The Late Amos Lot' by Graham Evans; 11.00 News; 11.05 Film On 4; 11.50 Enquire within; 12.00 News; 12.05 You and Yours; 12.27 Brain of Britain 1982 (1); The World at One: News; 1.40 The Archers; 1.50 News; 2.02 Woman's Hour; 2.05 News; 2.07 News; 2.08 News; 2.09 News; 2.10 News; 2.11 News; 2.12 News; 2.13 News; 2.14 News; 2.15 News; 2.16 News; 2.17 News; 2.18 News; 2.19 News; 2.20 News; 2.21 News; 2.22 News; 2.23 News; 2.24 News; 2.25 News; 2.26 News; 2.27 News; 2.28 News; 2.29 News; 2.30 News; 2.31 News; 2.32 News; 2.33 News; 2.34 News; 2.35 News; 2.36 News; 2.37 News; 2.38 News; 2.39 News; 2.40 News; 2.41 News; 2.42 News; 2.43 News; 2.44 News; 2.45 News; 2.46 News; 2.47 News; 2.48 News; 2.49 News; 2.50 News; 2.51 News; 2.52 News; 2.53 News; 2.54 News; 2.55 News; 2.56 News; 2.57 News; 2.58 News; 2.59 News; 3.00 News; 3.01 News; 3.02 News; 3.03 News; 3.04 News; 3.05 News; 3.06 News; 3.07 News; 3.08 News; 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